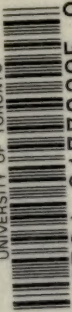



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WAR SPEECHES

OF

HIS HONOUR SIR MICHAEL O'DWYER,

G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.,

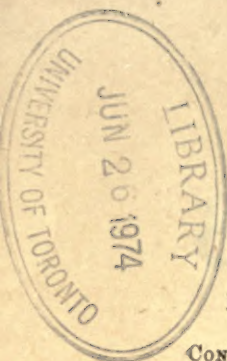
Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.



Lahore :

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THE HON'BLE SIR MICHAEL FRANCIS O'DWYER, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.,
Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab.

APPEAL TO THE PUNJAB.

1—Speech in the Punjab Legislative Council on
19th September 1914.

RESOLUTION IN REGARD TO THE WAR.

GENTLEMEN,—We have disposed of the ordinary business of the Session, but before we separate I feel compelled to refer to the one matter which is filling all minds and engrossing all hearts. It is only six short weeks since we were all thrilled by the announcement that the Empire was at war—not one of those local wars which we have seen in this or the last generation and which, however important in themselves, do not raise the great issues which determine the fate of nations—but the most momentous struggle on which the Empire has embarked since it saved the civilised world from the despotism of Napoleon.

It is unnecessary for me to dwell on the causes that have led up to that struggle or to the manner in which India has shown her determination to take her share in it. These are summed up in the august and inspiring message which His Majesty the King-Emperor has addressed to the Princes and peoples of India through His Excellency the Viceroy and which, with His Excellency's permission, I will repeat to this Council. (The Council stood up when it was read):—

“During the past few weeks the peoples of my whole Empire, at home and overseas, have moved with one mind and purpose to confront and overthrow an unparalleled assault upon the continuity of civilisation and the peace of mankind. The calamitous conflict is not of my seeking. My voice has been cast throughout on the side of peace. My Ministers earnestly strove to allay the causes of strife and to appease differences with which my Empire was not concerned. Had I stood aside when, in defiance of pledges, to which my Kingdom was a party, the soil of Belgium was violated and her cities desolated, when the very life of the French nation was threatened with extinction, I should have sacrificed my honour and given to destruction the liberties of my Empire and of mankind. I rejoice that every part of the Empire is with me in this decision.

Punjab Legislative Council

"Paramount regard for treaty, faith and the pledged word of rulers and people is the common heritage of England and India. Amongst the many incidents that have marked the unanimous uprising of the population of my Empire in defence of its unity and integrity nothing moved me more than the passionate devotion to my Throne expressed both by my Indian and English subjects and by the Feudatory Princes and Ruling Chiefs of India, and their prodigious offers of their lives and their resources in the cause of the realm and their one-voiced demand to be foremost in conflict has touched my heart and has inspired to highest issues the love and devotion which, as I well know, have ever linked my Indian subjects and myself. I recall to mind India's gracious message to the British nation of good-will and fellowship which greeted my return in February 1912, after the solemn ceremony of my Coronation Darbar at Delhi, and I find in this hour of trial a full harvest and a noble fulfillment of the assurance given by you that the destinies of Great Britain and India are indissolubly linked."

Gentlemen, His Majesty's words are an eloquent and gracious recognition of the manner in which the Princes and peoples of India have rallied spontaneously and unanimously to the defence of the common interests of the Empire. I need not dwell at length on the splendid response which our own Province of the Punjab has made to the call of duty. The response has been worthy of the Empire and worthy of the Province which justly claims to be the spear-head of the Indian Empire.

All the Ruling Chiefs of the Punjab have offered not only their Military forces but the resources of their States to Government, and it is no longer a secret that a large number of the Imperial Service Troops have been selected from the leading States to go on active service and take their share in the defence of the Empire.

We also know that the splendid Expeditionary Force, which India has put at the disposal of the King-Emperor, contains a very large proportion of Punjabis, and that in it are represented the flower of the martial races of the Punjab, — Ghakkars, Awans, Janjuhas, Pathans, Tiwanas from the Northern Punjab, the sturdy Sikhs of the Central districts, Dogras from the lower hills, Jats, Ranghars and other Rajputs from the south of the Province.

19th September 1914.

These are the races which have carried the banners of the King-Emperor and spread the fame of the Punjabi soldier throughout the East from Peking to Cairo and to Central Africa; they have now gone to win fresh laurels for themselves and their country fighting side by side with the manhood of the United Kingdom and of her Colonies and Dominions on the battlefields of Europe. The enthusiasm with which the troops called out responded to the call of duty is, I believe, only equalled by the disappointment of those who were left behind.

I am told that in Amritsar, Ferozepore and other centres, when the reservists of certain regiments were summoned to rejoin the colours, the reservists of all regiments came rushing in. Those whose regiments were not ordered on service in many cases refused to return to their homes, saying they would not be able to show their faces in their villages when the war was going on, and some of them even insisted on joining their regiments at their own expense in the hope that they might be allowed to take part in the campaign.

That is the spirit in which the Army has risen to the emergency and it will, I am confident, be reflected in the keenness and enthusiasm with which recruits will now come forward throughout the Province to fill up the gaps—the inevitable gaps—caused by the war, and to maintain our Punjab Regiments at full fighting strength.

The spirit shown by the people of the Punjab, who have not the opportunity of proving their devotion to the Empire in the field, is not less admirable. It has taken various forms expressive of patriotic loyalty from practically every community and association throughout the Province, prayers for the speedy and complete success of our arms, offers of service, of men, of money, of horses, of supplies according to the resources of the would-be givers who embrace all classes from the Premier Chief of the Punjab—His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala—who is himself going to the front, down to the humble clerk, and the war-worn veteran.

It has not been possible as you know at this stage for Government to accept more than a small proportion of these offers, but their value does not lie so much in the material aid—great as that is—offered to Government, as in the moral results that follow from the spectacle of a United India rallying to the support of the Empire in this great crisis. The value of such support has received the fullest recognition in the august message of the King-Emperor—

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which I have just read—and in the eloquent words of the Heads of His Government both in India and the United Kingdom.

Such is the present situation as regards the war : the war may be brief or prolonged, but while we all wish that it should be brief, none of us, I venture to affirm, has any doubt as to the final issue. Our national poet, who is perhaps as much admired and studied among the German as among the English-speaking races, has told us that “ thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just,” and the justice of our cause, the patriotic enthusiasm of our people all over the Empire, and the traditional valour of our army and our fleet assure us of the final success of our arms. I will now indicate to you a few practical ways in which the people of the Province can find scope for their patriotic energies while the war lasts. You are all aware of the Imperial Indian Relief Fund which was established by the Viceroy soon after the war broke out and of which a Provincial Branch has recently been constituted in the Punjab.

The primary object of the Fund is to relieve distress among the families of those who have gone to the front and to assist the widows and orphans of those who die on service. In utilising the amounts collected no distinction will be drawn between officers and privates, European and Indian, combatants and non-combatants. The test will be absence on active service and straitened circumstances among the families.

The second object of the Fund is the relief of acute local distress among the poorer classes of the people caused directly by the war and through no fault of their own. It is not the intention to make good any losses suffered by the prosperous or comparatively well-to-do who, like all other subjects of the Empire, must bear their share of the Imperial burden. Nor is it the intention that the Fund should maintain in idleness labourers, whom the war has thrown out of employment, if they are in a position to find other employment elsewhere, but make no effort to do so. In short, the assistance from the Fund is intended to be given only to the poor classes of the civil population who, through the effects of the war and no lack of effort on their own part, are in actual want of the necessaries of life.

I have already endeavoured to make it clearly understood throughout the Province that the Fund is in no way

19th September 1914.

official, that official influence is in no way to be used in securing contributions, that only voluntary subscriptions are desired, and that while no one is debarred from subscribing for objects, which are so near to the hearts of the people, especially in this Province, subscriptions should be invited only from those who are both in a position to give and who desire to support the Fund.

The response already received from the Province and in particular from Lahore, Amritsar, Multan and Gurdaspur has been most generous and gratifying, and though many of the largest contributions have been made direct to the Central Fund, the Provincial Committee is arranging to show the total amount subscribed by the Province. A great war must necessarily entail great sacrifices, but we here in India may congratulate ourselves on the fact that while the Empire is at war and we are bearing our share in it, we are spared most of the sacrifices and all of the privations which fall on the combatants in Europe. We are saved by the British fleet not only from the horrors of invasion, but also from the suffering and misery and starvation resulting from the cessation of trade and commerce, the ruin of agriculture and the closing of productive employment. Some anxiety has been expressed as to whether public works, which provide employment for so many thousands in this rapidly developing Province, will be suspended during the war. For that anxiety there is not a shadow of foundation. We intend to carry out our programme of canal extensions, of roads and buildings to its full extent, and you will be interested to learn that at present our difficulty is not to find work for those seeking employment, but to find labourers sufficient for the employment available. At present only one-third of the labour employed on our canals is provided from within the Province and we have to make up the deficiency from outside.

As a further proof that we do not intend to curtail our expenditure in any way, I may instance the fact that the Secretary of State has just sanctioned the scheme for the King Edward Memorial at Lahore at a cost of 35 lakhs, of which 15 have been contributed by the Province and 20 by Government, and the work is being pushed on as rapidly as possible.

Other ways in which people can render practical help are by using their influence in promoting a spirit of good-will

Punjab Legislative Council

among the different communities, in allaying dangerous excitement, in contradicting false and exaggerated rumours which spread alarm amidst the ignorant masses, in discouraging that foolish panic which leads to wholesale withdrawals of deposits from Banks and the Post Office, in keeping prices within reasonable limits, and generally in maintaining public confidence and showing that there is no ground for suspicion or alarm.

In these matters a great deal can be done by the public Press, and I desire here to acknowledge the patriotic spirit and the discretion which the Press generally has shown since the beginning of the war, and which I hope will be maintained while the war lasts. In time of war the Government of almost every country arms itself with special powers of censorship and control in regard to the Press, but I sincerely trust that the wisdom and self-restraint of the Press in the Punjab will render the exercise of such powers unnecessary.

In the earlier stages of the war while troops were being moved and dispositions made, it was imperative on Government to keep matters secret. But you have seen that for the last few weeks full information has been afforded of the progress of operations, of reverses—which have fortunately been few—and of successes which have been many and brilliant, on sea and land. There is therefore absolutely no reason now for the suspicion, which is prevailing among many people, that news has been kept back or is doctored by Government to suit its own purposes.

As an instance of the false rumours prevalent, I may mention the following :—

When I was at Lahore I was assured that the troopship containing the 28th Punjabis had been sunk and a number of lives lost. The 28th Punjabis had been recently stationed in Lahore and had been moved to Ceylon. The Adjutant was in Lahore. He telegraphed to Ceylon and found that the regiment not only had not moved, but that there was no intention of moving them.

The telegram, which the Viceroy almost daily receives from the Secretary of State, summarising the situation is published in the Press and this is a guarantee of genuineness which no one can dispute.

The fuller information which is now daily made available should enable all sensible and intelligent people to contradict false and misleading reports.

19th September 1914.

Government has recently made arrangements for the supply of a daily telegraphic summary of Reuter's telegrams to all Commissioners and district officers. It is also supplying a Daily Bulletin containing the telegrams in full to all Tahsils and Sub-Divisions and a Weekly Summary is supplied by means of the Vernacular Gazette to all Thanas. Thus every possible measure has been taken for the supply of authentic news, which will enable mischievous rumours to be contradicted, and these measures will, I am sure, be appreciated by the friends and relatives of the thousands of Punjab soldiers who have gone to the front. One subject indirectly connected with the war which comes home to the great mass of the people is that of prices. When I was at Amritsar and Lahore a few weeks ago it was brought to my notice that the price of wheat had risen within a few days from Rs. 3-8-0 to Rs. 4-4-0 per maund and the rise was having a most disquieting effect on all classes and especially on the poor. When I enquired the reason of the sudden rise various causes were assigned—the holding off of the September rains, the probability of high prices next year in Europe, the reopening of export, and the buying by those ill-omened speculators who gamble on scarcity and famine. You probably have noticed that any cause, however trivial, is considered as an adequate ground for raising prices, while only the most sound and cogent reasons can bring prices down. On examination the above causes for the rise will be found to be singularly unconvincing.

Our last harvest was an excellent one, and as prices were low in Europe, an unusually small proportion of wheat was exported thither, and though some went to the scarcity districts of the United Provinces, the stocks of wheat in the Province at the end of August were exceptionally high. A statement showing the estimated stocks of wheat in the Province will be issued in a few days. Though some anxiety as to the harvest now on the ground was caused by a long break of the rains in August, the timely and copious falls throughout the Province within the last ten days have now assured a bountiful harvest even on *barani* lands. On irrigated lands this harvest beats all records. Our canals have so far irrigated no less than five lakhs of acres more than in any previous year.

The excellent rains and full canal supplies similarly give us promise of an unusually large *rabi* harvest.

There was therefore no real justification beyond panic and rash speculation for the extraordinary rise in prices ten days ago, nor was there any such rise in the United Kingdom. Indeed you will have seen that the embargo on the export of articles of food from Great Britain, which was imposed as a precautionary measure in the first week of the war, has now been withdrawn except as regards sugar, doubtless in consequence of our having secured the mastery of the sea. I am glad to learn from telegrams just received that there has been a fairly substantial fall within the last few days, and if those who by speculating on famine prices created the panic have burnt their fingers, I don't think they deserve much sympathy from us.

I can give you the assurance that Government is following the movement of prices with the closest attention and will not hesitate to propose drastic action should circumstances require it, *i.e.*, if it finds that prices are being unduly inflated by alarmist rumours, by gambling speculation or by combination amongst traders to restrict the operation of the laws of supply and demand.

Gentlemen, the qualities of the people of the Province which are said to be most marked are their cool heads and their stout hearts. Now is the time to prove these qualities. The sons of the Punjab who have gone to the front will prove them in the field, but it is no less essential for the rest of us to prove them here at home, and by doing so we shall be discharging our duty to our Sovereign and the Empire in the great crisis we are now going through. It is in the full assurance that the Punjab will now, as always in the past, do its duty, that I venture to propose the following resolution :—

“ That this Council desires to convey to His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor George the Fifth an expression of the sincere devotion and staunch loyalty of His subjects in the Punjab to the Throne and the Government and an assurance of their solemn determination to maintain the proud martial traditions of the Province by serving His Majesty in every form in which their help may be required in the present war against the enemies of His Empire.”

**2—Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor
delivered in the University Hall, Lahore,
on 4th May 1918.**

GENTLEMEN,—I welcome you all to this great gathering, a gathering unique in itself and representative of all classes, all creeds, and all interests in the province.

We are met here to-day in response to the call of the Emperor. For four long years we have watched the great struggle. But we in India have looked from a distance. We have felt to the full neither the strain nor the thrill of the conflict. We may have heard the legions thunder past but many of us have sunk into sleep again. It is true we have despatched to, and maintained at, the various fronts several divisions amounting perhaps to over 200,000 men, men whose deeds have brought glory to their motherland and especially to our own Punjab, and we have contributed 100 millions sterling to the cost of the war. Judged by pre-war standards these contributions are magnificent, but those standards have altered; our few lakhs of men, great as their services have been, form only a small fraction of the seven millions that the Empire has called to arms, our hundred millions sterling represent only the expense of the war for a fortnight. That was all—or almost all—that we were asked for, and it is all we have done. Our optimism was strong, our imagination was weak; the British navy held the seas, and the war was far away. We were confident that the cause of the Empire and her Allies was just and would prevail. Germany was gradually being crushed between the upper and nether mill-stones and in the spring of last year the final crash seemed only a matter of months. Suddenly when victory seemed within our grasp, things changed. One of our Allies, sapped by German intrigue from without, by treachery and dissension from within, dropped out of the struggle. The pressure on our foe was relaxed. Her armies on the east were set free. The resources which were sorely needed to save her from starvation were placed at her command. Hundreds of thousands of German and Austrian soldiers who were interned in Russia as prisoners of war again made a bid for liberty. A new door to the East in place of those which we had sealed up by our brilliant campaigns in Mesopotamia and Palestine

was opened and in a few months the potential frontier of the eastern war was rolled back from the Dwina and the Carpathians to the Oxus and the Pamirs. Our far-flung battle-line extended over three continents, rolling back the Germans and Turks in Mesopotamia and Palestine, safeguarding Egypt, protecting Greece at Salonika, stiffening the Italian resistance in the plains of Venetia and Lombardy. But while our forces were thus divided the storm was gathering on the western front in France and in Flanders. There enemy reinforcements from the east were poured in and there we found ourselves two months ago faced by vastly superior numbers, organised with a merciless efficiency unparalleled in the history of war. The blow fell ; our outnumbered troops recoiled, stubbornly resisting, and for the first time since the battle of the Marne we felt the enemy's grip on our throat. And then the call came, the call of the King-Emperor, and all India stands at attention. I will read it to you :—

“ I learn with deep satisfaction that in response to the invitation of my Viceroy, the Ruling Princes and Chiefs, representatives of the Provincial Governments, and leaders of all ranks and sections of the community, European and Indian, are meeting in conference at Delhi to reaffirm the abiding loyalty of the Indian people and their resolute will to prosecute, to their utmost ability and to the full limit of their resources in association with other members of the Empire, the war which our enemies have wantonly provoked, and which they are ruthlessly waging against the freedom of the world. Great as has been India's contribution to the cause of the Allies it is by no means the full measure of her resources and strength. I rejoice to know that their development and the fuller utilisation of her man-power will be the first care of the conference. The need of the Empire is India's opportunity, and I am confident that, under the sure guidance of my Viceroy, her people will not fail in their endeavours. Recent events have made the struggle on the western front more bitter and more intense. At the same time the position in the East is menaced by disturbances in Asia instigated by the enemy. It is of ever-increasing importance that the operations of our armies in Egypt, Palestine and Mesopotamia should be largely sustained from India. I look confidently to the deliberations of the conference to promote a patriotic spirit of unity, a concentration of purpose and

4thth May 1918.

activity, and a cheerful acceptance of sacrifices without which no high object, no lasting victory, can be achieved."

Gentlemen, we know now that we are wanted. We are asked what we can do, and we are here to-day to give the answer.

THE MENACE TO INDIA.

Now, I know what your answer will be if I put it to you like that. But I want an answer from your intelligence, as well as from your enthusiasm. An enlightened self-interest is at the root of all loyalty that is not mere sentiment, and what I want us all to feel is that, in responding to the call, we shall be acting in our own best interests. The Premier has put it to us that we may be called on to defend the sacred soil of India against invasion. His words roused deep and widespread alarm. Assurances have been given—I have given them myself—that the danger is not an immediate one. That assurance I repeat. But the danger is a real one for all that. The Viceroy in his speech at Delhi warns us that the door to the East is open and we must be on our guard. He tells us that Germany has not, and could not yet have, made any military move in the direction of India, but that she has already, as is her wont, thrown out into Central Asia her pioneers of intrigue, her agents of disintegration, and he finally warns us that when the ground has thus been prepared, then she will look for her opportunity.

We in the Punjab have seen something of German intrigue. For years she has been working through the small, but dangerous, band of Indian seditionists in America to foment rebellion and anarchy in India. Her attempt was foiled by the vigilance of our administration and the loyalty of our people; and only in yesterday's papers we read that the last of the German Consular agents, who had abused their privileged position and the hospitality of a then neutral State, had been convicted of engineering the so-called Indian conspiracy in California. That menace is past, but Germany is preparing others and we know that she can move with terribly swift strides when the hour comes. I will remind you of two instances. In August 1916 Roumania declared war. Great hopes were raised, and there was bright promise of success. In the middle of November the Germans were still beyond the Carpathian passes. By

the end of the month they had taken the capital and overrun the fairest portion of the Kingdom. On the Italian frontier the Austrians had been pinned to their position for years. Suddenly, the Germans descend and in a week they have thrown back the Italians from the Isonzo to the Piave and captured 2,500 guns and 200,000 prisoners. These examples show what the Germans can do if they are given the opportunity. They have now the opportunity of striking a blow to the East. I am not an alarmist. I do not want to exaggerate the danger—that is why I have quoted the Viceroy's words.

THE BRUTE MADE FEROCIOUS BY CIVILISATION.

But I want you to understand the position. If I had been asked six months ago what I thought of the possibility of invasion I should have said it was a bogey. If you put the same question to me now, I tell you that it is a danger. It is a danger that we must face, a danger that we must prepare to meet. Soldiers are not made in a day any more than lawyers or professors. And the danger may be on us before those who respond to the call are ready to take their places in the field. Remember that the brunt of any invasion falls on us in the Punjab. Remember what you have read and what you have heard of the old invasions, of the Huns, the Mongol hosts, Timur, Nadir Shah and Ahmad Shah, of the Ravi running with blood and choked with corpses. Remember, above all, not only the war creed but the peace doctrines of the nation which will direct any invasion which we have now to fear. Let me tell you what Goethe, a German himself and perhaps the greatest genius Germany has ever produced, said of the Prussians. The Prussian, he said, was born a brute, and civilisation would make him ferocious. That is one of the most marvellous anticipations of the verdict of history that I know. Let me remind you how amply it has been fulfilled. Let the German leaders speak for themselves. "A war conducted with energy cannot be directed merely against the combatants of the enemy State and the positions they occupy, but it will, and must, in like manner seek to destroy the total intellectual and material resources of the latter." That is an extract from the official German publication on the "Usages of War." I could multiply such quotations, but I pass on to a different class of evidence which will show what the destruction of the intellectual and material resources of a country means. I take first the report of the

4th May 1918.

Bryce Committee on the Belgium atrocities. I am not going to read you extracts from that report describing the enormities that were committed. I will not, because, frankly, I dare not. But the accusers are there, a great multitude of them, men, women, and children, butchered, violated and mutilated. The details are too terrible. I will say no more. But if you wish to see the brute made ferocious by his civilisation, read and study that report. Then transfer the scenes to the streets of Lahore and Amritsar and you will understand. "The killing of non-combatants," so say the authors of the report, "was carried out to an extent for which no previous war between nations claiming to be civilised furnishes any precedent. That the killing was done as part of a deliberate plan is clear from the facts set forth regarding Louvain, Aerschot, Dinant and other places. The killing was done under orders in each place. It began at a certain fixed date and stopped (with certain exceptions) at another fixed date. The same remarks apply to the destruction of property." And, again, "they seized the civilians of the village indiscriminately and killed them without the least regard to guilt or innocence." These few extracts are sufficient to show what was done in the first flush of conquest. And subsequent history has shown that the sequel is in keeping with it. A leading English statesman told us a few days ago how every factory in Belgium had been stripped of its plant. The country has been plundered of everything which could make it a rival of Germany in commerce, and the present system of slow torture is even worse than the initial outrages. It is again the destruction of the whole intellectual and material resources. The highest form of civilisation is a return to barbarism. Attila and his Huns are to be a model for the Kaiser and his hordes. That was the ideal which the Kaiser himself set before the German troops sent to China at the time of the Boxer rebellion; and the Germans make no secret of the fact that they would apply the same policy of terrorism here should they set foot in India. Speaking two years before the war, when he was nominally our friend, the Kaiser said "We shall not merely occupy India, we shall conquer it; and the vast revenues which the British allow to be taken by Indian Princes will, after our conquest, flow in a golden stream to the Fatherland."

If the Indian Princes were thus to be robbed what would be the fate of the Indian people? The deeds of the

Germans in China, in East Africa, in South-West Africa, in every colony where they have had a subject race to bully and oppress, supply the answer.

AVERTING THE MENACE.

Now, Gentlemen, is it worth while making an effort to avert this menace from India? I am speaking for the moment to those who take an interest in politics. There are some among you here to-day who perhaps hope to see in your time the promised land of responsible self-government. The ideal is a natural and a noble one. If you want to enter in and enjoy the land you must prove yourselves able and willing to defend your country against foreign aggression. If you fail in that, the promised land becomes a mere figment of the imagination, a mirage of the desert, and you will return to weary wanderings in the deserts with a swift retribution to the murmurers—you will return to the bad old days of discord and disorder, of rapine and riot. With this possibility in prospect is there anyone here who will turn a deaf ear to His Majesty's injunctions for a patriotic spirit of unity, a concentration of purpose and activity, and a cheerful acceptance of sacrifices, all of which are essential to victory? Is there any one here who does not realise that, if internal controversies are allowed to hamper our efforts and paralyse our arms, the common enemy may snatch from our grasp not only everything about which we differ, but the vastly more important things about which we are all at one? It was said of a Roman Emperor that while he fiddled Rome was burning. Shall it be said of us that while we argued about reforms our very liberties were ascending to heaven in the fires of Louvain?

I trust I have made everyone feel what the issues are, and it is because I want you to help in saving India and in saving the Punjab from these perils that I have summoned this meeting to-day.

The Delhi All-India Conference has met, deliberated, resolved, and dispersed. The resolutions that it has passed are now before the provinces. They have been criticised in some quarters as not going far enough, but I would ask the critics to bear in mind that the Delhi resolutions only lay down general principles of action suitable for all provinces and that India's effort is the sum of the efforts of the provinces. It was for Delhi to outline. It is for the provinces to fill in the details and if we think the outline

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defective, there is nothing to prevent us from suggesting corrections. We know our resources, we know the spirit and determination of our people, and it is for us to-day to decide, in so far as the decision rests with us, how to apply them as speedily and forcibly as possible to the service of the Empire and our own defence.

THE PUNJAB'S PROGRAMME.

You all know the Delhi programme. My application of it to the Punjab I can explain in a sentence. Two hundred thousand men for the regular army, voluntarism if possible, conscription if necessary, twice the thousand men we have been asked for for the Indian portion of the Indian Defence Force, a war loan effort which will eclipse the last, the development to the utmost of our local resources, and, by God's grace, victory in the end. How we hope to achieve these objects is indicated in the draft resolutions before you. The first assures His Majesty that we shall make a loyal, prompt and practical response to His august message. It pledges our word. The following resolutions show how we propose to redeem that pledge.

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I ask you to consider each of these resolutions separately. In the second resolution we offer a contribution in manpower to the regular army, 200,000 men within the year, of whom 180,000 prove to be combatants. Last year we raised 127,000 combatants. That is, roughly for every five men we raised last year we should raise seven this. One-third of our districts have so far failed to make an adequate response. If they can be brought up to the mark there should be little difficulty. To show you what can be done take the case of Gujranwala. From the beginning of the war up to the end of November last—a period of $3\frac{1}{4}$ years—it had furnished less than 4,000 men. In the last four months, December to March, the number has been over 5,000. What can be done there can be done elsewhere and I shall not be satisfied until every district has a reasonable proportion of its fit men of military age serving. We are proud of the fact that since the war began we have raised over a quarter of a million fighting men. As I said in the Council last week, that is a remarkable achievement for a single Indian province. But what is it compared with that of the protagonists? To take England alone, we know that practically every man of military age is serving as a soldier or in some occupation subsidiary to

the army ; we know that there is hardly a family which is not mourning for one or more near and dear ones ; we know, or we should know, that the cause for which these millions are fighting and dying is ours as much as theirs. When we talk of our quarter of a million men let us not forget that the United Kingdom, with a total population of 45 millions, has raised 6 million men for the army alone and now proposes to raise a million more. At that rate the Punjab with its 24 millions could raise over 3 million men. I am only asking for a total of less than half a million by next April. The Premier has called on us to redouble our efforts. His Majesty tells us that India's contribution, though great, is by no means the full measure of her resources and her strength. Let us prove that the reproach conveyed in those words does not apply to the Punjab. Let us not haggle or bargain over our quota ; 200,000 men represent only one in twenty of our manhood of military age. Shall we, who profess our readiness to make every sacrifice, hold back from that ? The Ruling Princes and Chiefs have given us a lead. Patiala, Jind, Bahawalpur, Kapurthala, Faridkot, Malerkotla—all of whom have already sent splendid contingents of Imperial Service Troops to the front—and Chamba have all made noble offers, most of them to double or more than double their fighting forces, and it is doubtless in recognition of the splendid services of Patiala and of the Punjab States that our Premier Chief has been summoned to the Imperial War Conference. Let it not be said hereafter that the States have surpassed the British Punjab in patriotic sacrifice. The raising of 200,000 men within the year will tax our resources and call for a great and sustained effort. I am hopeful that the existing voluntary system, stimulated by the two special measures recommended in the second part of the resolution, *viz.*, the further grant of King's commissions and the increase in pay to the rank and file, will bring forth the men we need from most districts of the province. As regards the further grant of King's commissions the Government of India have already laid their proposals before the Home Government and we may be sure that they will receive early and sympathetic consideration. Meantime, 11 representatives of the leading martial tribes have received commissions in the King's Indian forces within the last few months, but the number to be granted will naturally depend in a great measure on the response to the call for recruits. We have often been told

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by those who claim to understand the Indian mind that the one thing wanted to open the flood-gates of recruiting is the grant of King's commissions. The next few months should show whether that view is correct. The second point is the increase of pay to the rank and file and here, too, we shall be all agreed, and we have just heard that the matter is now under consideration by the Government of India. We realise, I think, that no small burden of extra taxation will be required to meet the charge, but we shall not grudge it. New cantonments, new armaments and transport and all the hundred other requirements of an army will have to be provided, and all this will mean large expenditure. The special war taxation of India, I believe, does not exceed 6 millions sterling per annum. In the United Kingdom it now exceeds 600 millions per annum. There is, obviously, a large margin which can be drawn upon here. The Delhi Conference did not touch on the question of taxation, but it is a question which, His Excellency the Viceroy stated, must be faced in due course, and we shall face it with as good a grace as a country ever faces burdens which it knows to be justified.

THE QUESTION OF CONSCRIPTION.

Before I leave the subject of recruitment I must say a few words about conscription. No one, of course, dreams of conscripting the whole of India's manhood for the half million combatants required ; and if we can do without conscription in any form no one will be better pleased than I. But, splendid as has been the volunteer response of the Punjab hitherto, we must face the fact that the strain has been severe, that the burden has not been evenly distributed, and that the tribes and localities which have done their duty are not a little resentful against those who have not. The land-owning classes feel that they are paying the main burden of the war both in purse and in person and that there are other classes who pay little or nothing in either form. Inequality of burdens as between classes is always a legitimate grievance. It becomes more acute as the need for men becomes more insistent and the call for men more imperative.

The contingency of failure of the voluntary system in certain areas is there, and it would be cowardice not to face it. We have given our pledge, and we must take measures in time to secure its fulfilment. I believe that in the Punjab

at any rate there is now a strong feeling in favour of some form of conscription to raise the necessary quotas both within the province and as between the various provinces, the taking, for instance, of one fit man in ten or fifteen or twenty by lot, with the option of some pecuniary forfeit to be paid to the State. I hope I carry a large majority of my audience with me here and, if so, it is right that the province which hitherto has borne the main burden should state its views in no uncertain language. The decision, of course, rests in other hands. But, gentlemen, the machinery cannot be set in motion at once. The men are wanted immediately. What, therefore, appears necessary is that Government should take power to enforce the quotas allotted to provinces and that all the necessary preparations should be made in advance on the distinct understanding that the measure will not be applied if the quotas are forthcoming on a voluntary basis.

THE INDIAN DEFENCE FORCE.

I pass on to the third resolution which supplements the second. It aims at recruiting for the Indian section of the Indian Defence Force a substantial number of young men who, though unable to enlist in the army as combatants, are able and willing to share the burden of internal defence and thereby set free combatants for service in the field. Here I may say frankly that the past apathy of the people in the towns furnishes the rural classes with an excuse for holding back and with ground for the complaint that the burden of service is not equitably distributed. My appeal here is mainly to the educated youth of the province. I was reading the other day an account of my old university, Oxford. The grey old quadrangles are emptied of their students. Sentinels stand at the gates. The halls are now hospitals, and where once was all the brightness and the sparkle of youth the only occupants are the sick and the wounded and the nurses and doctors who minister to their comfort. Within the last year 42 members of my old college, Balliol, have met a soldier's death; nearly 200 have been wounded. There are only 40 undergraduates where there used to be 250 and nearly all the 40 are engaged on military service or Government work. The college is occupied by the officers and 200 cadets of the 6th Cadet Battalion and there are only two tutors in residence. In the Punjab we have raised with difficulty

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some 75 men from among University students for the Signal Company and twice that number for the Indian Defence Force. The appeal was, no doubt, made at an inopportune time, but the response was disappointing. I hear excellent accounts of the work these men are doing, their intelligence, their discipline, and their soldierly spirit. They have felt the call of a duty that was strange to many of them and they have found that the able-bodied, high-spirited youth, no matter what his ancestry or his caste, has in him the fibre and the spirit of the soldier. The call now comes to others. It is the call now not merely of their King and their Empire. It is the call of their hearths and their homes and of all that they hold most dear. We were asked last year for at least 1,000 men. This year I hope we shall be able to raise 2,000 and, if they are forthcoming, I am sure the military authorities will do all they can to facilitate their training and organisation. I am arranging for a committee to stimulate and encourage recruitment, and Mr. Justice Shadi Lal, one of the most brilliant products of our University, has consented to act as its president. It is a happy omen for the success of his campaign that over 100 members of the Chief Court Bar Association have already come forward with offers of service, offers which I hope will soon take practical form.

THE WAR LOAN AND RESOURCES.

The two remaining resolutions on the programme relate to the War Loan and the development of our local resources for the purpose of the war.

As to the former, I said in my Budget speech the other day that we could hardly hope to repeat the achievement of last year. The harvest, however, which is now being reaped, is a splendid one; there is a steady flow of money to the province from its sons who are serving in the field, large profits are being made from war contracts, and I trust that the Punjab will make it a point of honour to maintain its place among the provinces. I have again appointed a committee to organise War Loan propaganda and Sir Henry Rattigan has kindly consented to serve as president. It has often been stated that the local capitalists as a class were backward in supporting last year's loan and, if that is true, I would appeal to them to remove the reproach. You may have seen that Lala Prabh Diyal, a millowner of Multan, has already offered 3 lakhs for investment in any

form of the new loan, without waiting for the terms to be published. That is a fine example of the spirit that shows itself by deeds not words, and illustrates the Premier's saying that nations and individuals grow great not by what they get, but by what they give.

As regards material resources I can say little at present but we shall, no doubt, be told by the Munitions Board in what directions we can help. I propose to ask certain gentlemen with special qualifications to join the Recruiting Board, which will then be empowered to deal with all matters referred to us by the Munitions Board.

VICTORY IN THE END.

There remains only one item more—the crowning feature in the programme of all of us—victory in the end. The idea that Germany should be victorious is one which revolts our whole moral nature. If Germany triumphs then is all our teaching in vain. The great fabric of international justice which the better mind of all nations has been slowly raising for centuries past stone by stone will all be levelled with the dust. That the future contains any such fate for the nations of the world we will not, we cannot, believe. For my part I believe that the State which lays its foundations on militarism may be likened unto a foolish man who built his house upon the sand and the rains descended and the floods came and the wind blew and beat upon that house and it fell. And great was the fall thereof.

3—Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor delivered in the Punjab Legislative Council on 26th April 1918.

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I have endeavoured so far to give you some indication, however rough, of the activities and policy of Government in various spheres which are of special interest to the public. I hope you will agree with me that, notwithstanding the serious pre-occupations of the war, we are not neglecting the policy of steady administrative progress.

But the Premier's recent message—a message urgent and solemn—to India and His Excellency the Viceroy's reply have made it clear that the struggle which was forced on us has now reached a critical stage, when its imperative call must have priority over all other matters. India is an integral part of the Empire. The existence of that Empire and of everything for which it stands is at stake in the present conflict; the security of India's hearths and homes is menaced; and for the Empire's defence and her own security India is now called upon to put forth efforts and to make sacrifices adequate to her great resources and worthy of her loyal traditions.

It is with this object that the Viceroy has summoned representatives from all parts of India to meet at Delhi on the 27th in order to invite the co-operation at this crisis in sinking domestic dissensions and political propaganda, in securing their active support in all measures necessary for the successful prosecution of the war, and in cheerfully bearing the sacrifices necessary to secure victory. The Punjab will be strongly and worthily represented in that great gathering, and you will be glad to know that three past and three present Members of this Council will participate in it. When the Delhi deliberations are finished, meetings will be held in the various Provinces to concert the measures necessary to give effect to them and I have accordingly summoned a representative gathering to meet at Lahore on the 4th May. But on behalf of the Punjab I have lost no time in assuring the Viceroy that he could count on our complete co-operation in securing the objects of the Conference and on our firm determination to give practical effect to its resolutions.

Punjab Legislative Council

Hon'ble Members will remember that at a special meeting held in Simla soon after the outbreak of war the Punjab Legislative Council passed a Resolution humbly assuring the King-Emperor of the determination of the people of this Province to serve His Majesty in every form in which their help might be required against the enemies of his Empire. Those were no empty words. Looking back over the last $3\frac{1}{2}$ years we can claim that the province has fulfilled its promise. I have been often attacked elsewhere for my insistence in season, and as my critics say out of season, on the great war services of the Punjab, thereby suggesting invidious comparisons with other Provinces and certain political movements. In view of the Premier's message and this week's meeting at Delhi I leave it to the public to judge whether my action was misplaced. Anyhow I have no fear of hurting the feelings of any one in this Council by reciting briefly what we have done up to now and thereby stimulating the Province for the further efforts and sacrifices that the Viceroy's message and the Delhi Conference foreshadow. Take first the supply of men to the combatant ranks. A year ago I told you with pride that since the war began the Punjab had furnished 124,000 men. That was spread over $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. What have we done within the last year? We have furnished 127,095 combatants or more than in the previous $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. All the rest of India including the Native States with more than 12 times our population has raised in the last year 137,000 men, or slightly more than our single Province. Since the war began we have raised over 250,000 men to fight the battles of the Empire, besides some 60,000 or 70,000 men serving as non-combatants, followers, &c., and though the effort may not seem great as compared with that of Great Britain and the British Colonies where nearly every man of fighting age is now serving as a soldier or in some work subsidiary to the war, it is a truly remarkable one for a single Indian province. Our quarter of a million combatants are composed roughly as follows :—

Percentage of male
population of
fighting age.

10·5	.. Muhammadans from northern Punjab	.. 98,000
7·3	.. Muhammadans from southern Punjab	.. 19,000

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Percentage of male
population of
fighting age.

14	..	Sikhs	65,000
11.3	..	Hindu	Jats	..	22,000
9	..	"	Dogras	..	18,000
11	..	"	other Rajputs	..	7,000
18	..	"	Ahirs	..	7,000
6	..	"	Gujars	..	5,000
		"	Brahmins, chiefly		
			Gaur	..	4,000
9	..	Christians	..	..	3,000
		Kashmiris	..	..	1,000
		Others	..	..	1,000

The totals are—

Muhammadans	..	..	..	118,000
Sikhs	..	..	..	65,000
Hindus	..	..	..	63,000
Christians	..	..	..	3,000
Others	..	..	..	1,000

and I invite the attention of the great martial races not only to the total numbers but to the proportion of their manhood which they have enlisted. How well our men have fought is proved by the fact that they have earned no less than 1,448 distinctions for gallantry in the field.

These include 3 V.Cs.—two to Punjabi Muhammadans of Jhelum and Rawalpindi, one to a Dogra of Kangra—18 M.Cs., 88 O.B.I., 325 I.O.M., 790 D.S.M., 98 M.S.M and 126 Foreign Orders and Medals.

Of these distinctions 700 or nearly half have gone to Sikhs, 371 to Punjabi Muhammadans, 43 to other Muhammadans, 121 to Dogras, 115 to Jats, 25 to Rajputs, and 11 to Brahmans, 4 to Gujars, 6 to Ahirs and other Hindus.

The districts which so far have the best records are Ludhiana 142, Jhelum 136, Rawalpindi 125, Rohtak 99, Hoshiarpur 94, Kangra 86, Amritsar 77, Ferozepore 67, Gujrat 63, Gujranwala 46, and the leading Native States are Patiala 98, Nabha 22, Jind 19. Those are the military distinctions to officers and men in the field, but I think we in the Punjab may claim that we have not been forgetful of the interests of the martial classes from whom those

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gallant men have been drawn. I need not here refer to the grants of land, *khillats*, titles and other distinctions to the many who have given up their time and influence to this great cause. But I may refer to the two new and singular distinctions granted almost exclusively for family or personal services in connection with the war, *viz.*, (1) the grant of 11 temporary commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces to prominent representatives of the great martial races and (2) to the grant of *jagirs* for good services generally and especially in connection with the war. Last year I announced the grant of *jagirs*, value Rs. 10,000, to such individuals, and a resolution is now appearing which records the grant of Rs. 5,000 in *jagir* varying from Rs. 750 to Rs. 250 per annum to 15 gentlemen of whom 6 are Muhammdans, 5 are Hindus and 4 Sikhs.

So far from any slacking off, the results in recent months show a steady improvement, and in March we surpassed all previous efforts with 13,713 combatants and 2,924 non-combatants, or a total of 16,637. The statements published monthly show the progress of recruiting in every district and Native State of the Province, and the following districts have already contributed over 10 per cent. of their manhood:—Rawalpindi and Jhelum 30 per cent., Attock 16 per cent., Rohtak 15 per cent., Ludhiana 14 per cent., Gujrat 13 per cent., Amritsar 11 per cent., and Shahpur 10 per cent. On the other hand the Multan Division in spite of recent improvement has supplied less than 2 per cent., Karnal less than 3 per cent., Lahore less than 4 per cent., Ambala less than 5 per cent. The decisive factor in the war will be Man Power. The defection of Russia and the consequent collapse of Roumania have given our enemies a temporary superiority in men. The advance of the enemy on the West is, however, being firmly held, while the man power of the British Empire and its allies is being mobilised to deliver him the knockout blow which alone will restore peace to a war-worn world. The United Kingdom with less than double the population of our province has already raised six million men for the army alone and is now taking measures to raise at least another million in the present year. The Dominions are making similar sacrifices. What share of the burden should the Punjab shoulder in this crisis? I would suggest that we should endeavour to double last year's contribution of men and raise a quarter of a million in the coming year. That would bring our total contribu-

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tion to half a million or one in eight of the men of fighting age. If we do that and I do not see why we should not, we shall have gone a long way to justify the claim of an Hon'ble Member that the Punjab is not only saving India but is also doing much to save the Empire. Within the last few weeks the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of Patiala, Jind, Bahawalpur, Kapurthala, Faridkot, Maler Kotla and Chamba have come forward with practical and generous offers, usually to double their present contribution of fighting men. They thus offer us a splendid example, and we in the Punjab feel honoured in the selection of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala to represent the Princes of India in the Imperial War Conference. That is a just recognition of the part played by the premier Punjab State and the Punjab generally.

The drain on our manhood has been great, but it is slight as compared with that on the rest of the Empire, and the figures I have quoted show what great resources are still available.

Now that His Majesty has called upon us through the Premier to make even a greater effort in this great crisis, we shall, I am confident, give further proof that the promise solemnly made in September 1914 is a sacred obligation in the discharge of which we shall flinch from no sacrifice.

But here I must point out that even within the Province the burden of sacrifice has hitherto been unevenly distributed. The 2½ lakhs of combatants have been drawn almost exclusively, and the 60,000 non-combatants mainly from the rural agricultural classes. The urban population of the Province, it is true, forms only one-tenth of our population, but in the matter of man power it certainly has not borne a share proportionate to its number or its obligations. As you know special efforts were made last year to recruit at least one Double Company from University students, past and present, and a battalion 1,000 strong from the urban classes for the Indian Defence Force. The result, even allowing for the difficulties in striking out a new line, was most disappointing. Less than 100 young men were enrolled for the University Company, which had, therefore, to be narrowed down to a Signalling section. Those youths showed admirable keenness and intelligence and have now been sent to the front, where we know they will acquit themselves as good and staunch sons of the Punjab.

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For the Indian Defence Force, instead of the hoped-for 1,000, only some 150 fit men were enrolled. They are now going through their training, and their officers speak highly of their spirit and eagerness to learn. But in the face of the present crisis, do the educated classes of the Province think that they are doing their duty by supplying these few hundred men?

I am sure they do not, and now that the urgency of the need for men has been brought home to them, I look to them to come forward and not be put to shame by their brethren in the villages. I look to them to supply some substantial addition to the combatant ranks and to rally in their thousands to the Indian Defence Force which is now re-opened to recruitment.

So far as to man power. Now as to other resources. The Province's response to last year's War Loan astonished even those of us who thought we knew the strength of Punjab patriotism. Our total contribution was nearly 6 crores. In the General Section we have been surpassed by only Bombay and Bengal including Calcutta; in the Post Office Section we were second only to Bombay.

When a New War Loan is issued we cannot expect to repeat such a magnificent achievement, but the present harvest is a splendid one, the receipts to the Province from Military service are very great and steadily growing, many firms are making enormous profits from army contracts, and finally the wealthy capitalists in the towns, who for one reason or another are unable to take an active share in the defence of their country, have an effective way of assisting by providing the sinews of war. I have been told in many places that the capitalists as a class did not give adequate support to last year's loan. If there is any truth in that I hope they will remove the reproach when the new loan is issued.

Before I leave this subject I must say a word in acknowledgment of the splendid generosity with which the Province subscribed to the appeal on behalf of the various War and Relief Funds. The amount raised for "Our Day" alone was about 17 lakhs, and the Punjab again proved its solicitude for the welfare and comfort of its brave sons at the front. I hope it will not be necessary to make any further general appeal of this nature in the present year, but should it be, I know the Province will do its duty.

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The third respect in which we are asked to help at this crisis is by sinking domestic dissensions and political propaganda and concentrating all our energies on repelling the peril which threatens our national existence. Here, too, I am confident that, as in the past, the Punjab will be true to its traditions. Since the war began the people of the Province as a whole, so far from doing anything to embarrass the Government, have rallied enthusiastically to its support. At times I have been compelled to take measures against a few organs of the vernacular press, but that press on the whole has maintained in troublous times a correct, a loyal and helpful attitude which I am glad to acknowledge. What is known as the "Anglo-Vernacular" press has now and again shown a disposition towards mistrust and carping criticism of Government, but its general attitude towards the supreme question of national defence, whenever it dealt with that subject, has given no cause of complaint. At the same time the various political and other associations in the Province have, as a rule, conducted their discussions and propaganda with a sobriety and restraint befitting the anxious times we are living in.

Now that the gravity of the existing situation has been realised by all, I am confident that all parties, all shades of opinion, political and communal, will combine in one great united and national effort on behalf of King and Country. The assurances given by all Hon'ble Members who have spoken during the debate confirm that hope. And when the present menace is averted by that united effort, we shall approach the solution of those important but for the time minor issues in the spirit of mutual toleration and mutual comprehension born of the feeling that we have stood shoulder to shoulder in this great emergency, and by our union have successfully resisted the greatest menace with which our common humanity has ever been threatened and laid the foundations of a just and enduring peace.

4—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Rawalpindi on the 26th March 1915.

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GENTLEMEN,—I had yet another reason for addressing you to-day and it is one equally gratifying to me and to you. I desire publicly to congratulate the people of the three districts of Pindi, Attock and Jhelum on their splendid response to the call for men in defence of the Empire.

Everyone who knows the men of the Northern Punjab recognises that, whatever their defects, there are two great qualities which they possess—loyalty and bravery. The present war has given them a special opportunity of proving those qualities.

Some figures which I have just received from the Military Authorities show that from the beginning of this war up to 1st March, 45,000 recruits have been raised throughout the Indian Empire. Of these I am proud to say one-half or more were raised from the Punjab as a whole and no less than 10,000 were raised from among the Punjabi Muhammadans of which Rawalpindi is the recruiting centre, so that these few districts with a population of under 4 millions have yielded nearly one-fourth of the total number for India. I understand that from Pindi alone nearly 4,000 recruits have been raised and Jhelum comes a good second, and it is a source of pride to us all that the first Indian soldier to receive the Victoria Cross was a Jhelum man—Khuda Dad Khan of the 129th Baluchis. Attock and Gujrat have also done well. While in Mianwali and Shahpur the results have been relatively disappointing except in the case of the Tiwana class which has set a splendid example of loyalty and self-sacrifice worthy of their high traditions.

I congratulate the people of Pindi on an exhibition of martial spirit and loyalty which I think has been surpassed in no part of the Indian Empire. The result is equally creditable to them, to the people and to their leaders and to the District authorities, and to the tact, knowledge and energy of the Recruiting Officer—Captain Mollison—who has been working in close co-operation with them.

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It has been a great pleasure to me to distribute to the many gentlemen, who have done so much for recruiting, the rewards and *khillats* which have been so generously provided by the Army Department. I am betraying no secret when I say that all accounts from the front show that in the face of the enemy in Europe, Africa and Asia, the men of these districts have shown that they are second to none in endurance and pluck. We are proud to welcome here to-day some of those who have shed their blood in the cause of duty and honour, and we can assure them that, in the future as in the past, Government will not be slow or niggardly in showing its recognition of distinguished service.

One word more on this subject.

The care of the families and dependents of those who are risking their lives for their King and country is one of the first duties of Government, and I am glad to hear from Mr. Renouf of the efficient arrangements being made by local committees to meet any cases of distress.

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**5—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Kangra on the
25th October 1916.**

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While the people of Kangra have turned the Pax Brittanica to good account they have not allowed it to extinguish those splendid martial qualities for which they have been famous in the past. Of the 250 districts of the Indian Empire, Kangra, with a population of only two-thirds of a million, ranks 5th in the number of fighting men it supplies to the Indian Army. On the 1st of January last the number of Kangra men in the Indian Army was 7,450 and it was surpassed only by—

Rawalpindi, with 13,000.

Jhelum, with 12,000.

Rohtak, with 8,500.

Hoshiarpur, with 7,700.

All, you will be proud to observe, are Punjab districts. The fine fighting races known as Dogras (hill people) are primarily associated with Kangra which furnishes over 7,000 of the 13,000 Dogras in the Indian Army. You may therefore claim a great share in the exploits of the three famous Dogra regiments—the 37th, the 38th and the 41st—and of the many Dogra companies and squadrons in mixed regiments in the present war. Wherever they have faced the enemy—whether in France, Egypt, Africa or Mesopotamia—the Dogras by their steady discipline and splendid valour have proved themselves worthy descendants of the men who in the past held the Kangra Fort against Afghan, Turk, Moghal, Sikh and Gurkha. The Army Department has kindly furnished me with a list of special distinctions won by Dogras during the present war. They include—

Victoria Cross	..	1
Military Cross	..	1
Order of British India	..	5
Order of Merit	..	29
Distinguished Conduct Medal	..	56
Distinctions given by our Allies..		4
Total		96

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All honour to the men who have won such distinctions for themselves, the army and the races to which they belong. Kangra will rejoice that a Kangra man has secured one of the seven Victoria Crosses awarded to the Indian Army. This hero is Lance Naik Lala of the 41st Dogras, a resident of Parol in Hamirpur, who at the battle of Umm el-Hannah in Mesopotamia on January 21st rescued two wounded British Officers, Captain Nicholson of the 37th Dogras and Lieutenant Lindot of the 41st, under the enemy's fire. I have heard the details through one of the officers whose life he saved at the risk of his own and they stand forth prominent among the many deeds of bravery and self-sacrifice which this war has witnessed. It is also my privilege to-day to confer the Russian decoration of St. George (which in Russia is the equivalent of the V.C.) on Havildar Ganga of the 37th Dogras whose heroic exploit early in the war in November 1914 caused a thrill of pride and delight to all who followed the doings of the Indian Army Corps in France.

But exploits such as these entail corresponding sacrifices and the problem for the men in Kangra is to provide recruits to make good the wastage and fill up the gaps caused in the Dogra regiments, companies and squadrons, by 2 years' continuous warfare. This is no easy task for, as you point out, and as a comparison with other districts shows, Kangra had been heavily drawn on by the army before the war broke out. Since then you have provided nearly 4,000 recruits, but this is not enough; further efforts are required and Government looks to you to make them. I know that your Rajas and leading men and in particular Lieutenant-Colonel Raja Jai Chand of Lambagraon, the Raja of Guler, T. Rajindra Pal of Kutlehr, Rai Megh Singh of Kulu, are working, not only in their own *ilagas*, but wherever Dogra recruits are to be found, to keep the Dogras at full strength and enable them to share in the final triumph of our Arms which is at last coming into sight. I appeal to you here to-day to join in this good work and thereby maintain the high reputation of Kangra as the nursery of brave men and loyal soldiers of the King-Emperor. The action of the Thakur of Lahaul in raising 120 men among the sparse population of those snowy wastes for service under himself in the swamps of Mesopotamia is a fine example of patriotic enterprise which you have done well to cite and which I am glad publicly to acknowledge. It is his devotion

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to the task that has prevented him from attending to-day's Darbar.

Any reference to the Kangra troops would be incomplete if I failed to mention the two gallant battalions of the 1st King George's Own Gurkhas who in peace time are cantoned in the district and many of whom have made their homes here on retirement. The first battalion of the regiment has covered itself with glory in France in the terrible battles of Festubert, Ypres, Neuve Chapelle, and if that were possible has added to its laurels in some of the bloodiest fightings in Mesopotamia. Its losses in officers and men have been enormous. The distinctions it has gained so far constitute a splendid record for a single battalion and include for British Officers 1 C.M.G., 1 D.S.O. and 2 M.C.S., and for the Indian Officers and men 3 Russian Orders of St. George, 6 Indian Orders of Merit, 17 D.S. Medals. The 2nd Battalion, which has furnished the fine guard of honour at this Darbar, was garrisoning distant Chitral till a year after the outbreak of war, and on its way back to India took a prominent part in the fighting in the Swat Valley and at Shabkadar last autumn. It is now waiting impatiently to be sent to the Front when we may be sure it will rival, for it can hardly surpass, the gallant deeds of the 1st Battalion. Since the war began the 1st Battalion has enlisted 1,398 recruits and the 2nd 1,280. These figures are remarkable and I quote them in the hope that they will move the people of Kangra to friendly emulation.

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I believe a generation or more has passed since a Darbar was held by the Lieutenant-Governor in Kangra, and it has therefore been a special pleasure to me to have the opportunity of meeting you and talking to you to-day. I hope that what I have said will convince you that though remote from the head-quarters of Government, Government is not ignorant of your history and services or unmindful of your conditions and your needs. The district has always been fortunate in having officers such as Barnes, Lyall and O'Brien who were deeply attached to the people of Kangra and staunch advocates of their interests, and I am revealing no secret when I say that your officers to-day possess the same qualities. This mutual confidence between the people and their leaders on one side and the officers of Government

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on the other is the sure guarantee of the loyalty and contentment of the people, which I am proud to think are marked features of the Punjab generally and of your district in particular. No better proof of this could be forthcoming than the splendid behaviour of the Province in furnishing 100,000 recruits to the Combatant Army since the war began, besides tens of thousands of followers and non-combatants. In response to the sudden demand of the Military authorities we have in the first fortnight of October raised over 10,000 men for service as Sarwans, Drabis, etc., in Mesopotamia—a feat of which the Government and the people of the Punjab may be equally proud. In the rallying of the Punjab to the cause of the Empire Kangra has already done much and will, I trust, do what further is required. It only remains to me to thank you again for your presence here to-day and for your kindly welcome to me, to congratulate you on a healthy season and on the bountiful harvest which is now being reaped, and to assure you of the continued interest of myself and my Government in the welfare of Kangra, its Rajas and its people.

6 -Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Montgomery on the 17th January 1917.

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The Punjab supplies more than half the Indian Army and the Punjab Government, therefore, proposed, and the Government of India agreed, that 178,000 acres, or more than one-fifth of the whole area available, should be set apart for reward grants to the Indian Army, and put it at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for distribution after the war, priority to be given to Punjabi Officers and men who had served best in the war, and to the heirs of those who had fallen in the service of the King-Emperor.

Judged by this test, which is after all the supreme test, the Punjab and in particular the fighting races of the Punjab leave all the rest of India far behind, and you will be interested to hear the figures which establish this.

From the beginning of the war up to the 31st March last the total death casualties in the Indian Army were 11,015. Of these no less than 1,799 fell to the share of the gallant Gurkhas from Nepal, leaving 9,216 for the other Provinces and States of India. Of that number the details are—

Punjab	..	..	5,183 or 56 per cent.
United Provinces	..	..	1,149
Rajputana	..	..	1,067
Bombay and Sind	..	..	903
North-West Frontier Province.			561
Madras	..	..	168
Behar and Orissa	..	..	21
Bengal	..	..	13
Central Provinces	..	..	16
Assam	..	..	13

Gentlemen, I think we in the Punjab may well ask those in other Provinces, who talk so much of the sacrifices of the war and base their claims on it, to mark and digest these

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figures. Compared with the sacrifices of Great Britain and the Colonies the figures for India as a whole are not remarkable, but we in the Punjab can claim that with less than one-twelfth of the population of the Indian Empire we have contributed more than one-half of the supreme sacrifices. I know that the people of the Punjab are proud of those sacrifices and are ready and willing to make even greater ones. I am also glad to assure them that though they may not talk loudly of their services or use them as a lever for formulating demands (as I have said before, Punjab loyalty and Punjab courage are not to be bartered in the marketplace like a bale of cotton or a bag of wheat), but I can assure them that Government is not less but more grateful for their services, not less but more mindful of recognising them. One of the methods of recognition is the grants to the landed gentry class, another is the reward grants to the Punjab men who have won special distinction in the present war.

Gentlemen, I regret to say that in this great struggle, in which so many Punjabis have won honour and fame for themselves, their tribes and their districts, Montgomery has borne no share. Of the 128,000 Punjabis in the Indian Army on the 31st December 1916, there were only 48 from Montgomery, and of these 42 were from the very small community of Sikhs. Your neighbours in Multan, Muzaffargarh and Jhang have an equally bad record with 37, 27 and 44 respectively.

In fact the Muhammadan Districts of the South-West Punjab are put to shame by their brethren in the North-West Punjab. Compare yourself with Rawalpindi which has 13,000 men in the Indian Army, Jhelum 12,000, Attock 5,000, Gujrat 4,000, Shahpur 4,000. I fully recognise the difficulties of recruiting for the Army among a conservative and home-loving people hitherto unaccustomed to military service, but similar difficulties have been overcome elsewhere and I should like to see them overcome in the Multan Division.

Three years ago, before the war started, I and my officers have endeavoured to make some of the leaders of the Montgomery tribes understand that military service exalteth a tribe, that without *khidmat* there could be no *izzat*, and that was why they had stagnated while the Muhammadans of the North-West Punjab had gone far ahead in honour, dignity and even material prosperity.

Since the war I have preached the same sermon in Multan, Jhang and Muzaffargarh. Hitherto there has been no response. These districts are the only ones in the Punjab which have not responded to the Empire's call. Of the 5,200 Punjabis who up to April last had given up their lives for their King and country there was not a single man from among the two millions of Multan, Muzaffargarh and Montgomery. Jhang could claim two.

Gentlemen, in your address you not unreasonably refer to the absence of the serious crimes and disorders that have troubled adjacent districts since the war broke out. I give you all credit for what you appropriately call "negative assistance." But I do not hesitate to say that "negative assistance" is not a Punjab quality, however common it may be elsewhere. It is not what Government expects to receive or what the average Punjabi contents himself with giving.

A final opportunity is now about to be given to the districts of the South-West Punjab to prove their manhood and their loyalty. Your Commissioner is being asked to raise a battalion or even half a battalion—a thirtieth part of what the single district of Rawalpindi furnishes—in these three districts through your leading men. This will be of little use to Government, but if successfully raised it will do something to remove from these districts the reproach of being the only districts in the Punjab that failed to play their part in this great struggle.

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7—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Karnal on the 30th July 1917.

I have great pleasure in welcoming you to this *jalsa*. I am holding this and similar *jalsas* in various districts for two reasons. In the first place, to announce and, as far as possible, distribute the titles, honours and other rewards, which His Excellency the Viceroy and the Army Department have recently sanctioned in favour of those who have done conspicuous service in connection with the war and especially in the matter of recruiting. I heartily congratulate the gentlemen who have been thus honoured to-day. The titles and rewards they have received are a precious possession to which they and their descendants for generations can point with pride as the recognition shown by the Government of King-Emperor for distinguished service rendered in a great cause. This recognition will, I am sure, stimulate to persevere in their efforts and encourage others to follow their good example.

That brings me to my second reason for holding this Darbar. As stated by the Commissioner, the efforts of Karnal to provide soldiers for the King Emperor have hitherto been poor, though there has been some improvement in the past two months ; and it is my desire to explain to you your duty and to stimulate your efforts to perform it. You will understand how much ground you have to make up when I compare your district with those of adjoining districts.

On 1st January 1917 the number of men from each of these districts in the combatant ranks of the Army was as follows :—

Rohtak	..	..	..	10,201
Gurgaon	..	..	..	6,221
Hissar	..	..	..	5,581
Ambala	..	..	..	2,610
Karnal	..	..	..	977

You have a bigger population to choose from than any of the other districts in this Division and yet Rohtak has more than ten times your number in the army, Gurgaon more than six times, Hissar five times, Ambala three times.

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I will compare your figures with Gurgaon because the population of the two districts is nearly equal : and the agricultural tribes from which recruits are chiefly raised closely correspond, being mainly Hindu Jats, Brahmins, Ahirs and Gujars, and Muhammadan Rajputs, Gujars and Jats. If Karnal had done as much as Gurgaon it should have had 6,800 men in the Army on the 1st July last instead of less than 1,000. One single Rais of Gurgaon—Rao Bahadur Balbir Singh, whom Government has rewarded with a *jagir*, with the title of Rao Bahadur, and to-day with a Sword of Honour—has produced more than 1,000 Ahir recruits, that is, more than the whole district of Karnal. Again, since the 1st January 1917, Gurgaon has given 2,119 recruits, Karnal only 705. It is therefore no matter for surprise that, at to-day's Darbar, all the *khillats* and swords of honour have gone to Gurgaon and not one to Karnal.

In saying this I make no reflection on the loyalty of Karnal. You have done much in other ways since the outbreak of war. You have contributed generously to the Relief Funds, you have subscribed many lakhs to the War Loan, you have made generous provision for the comfort of the sick and wounded from the Front in your splendid hospital. These are all useful services ; but what Government wants at this time is *men*. We are, I hope, in the last year of this terrible war ; victory is crowning our arms on every side, but the enemy is still making a stubborn resistance in Europe and Asia, and to bring the war to a speedy and successful end we want more men. The fighting men of India are mainly raised in the Punjab. The Punjab has never yet failed in its duty, and Government looks to the Punjab, and specially to districts like this which so far have held back, to put forth every effort in this final stage of the struggle which will bring *izzat* to them, security to their homes and peace to the world.

Is it necessary to remind the people of this district, which contains Panipat and Kurukshetra and which has so often been ravaged by armies contending for the sovereignty of Hindustan, of the blessings of peace and security which are at stake in the present war ? Will you let it be said that the men of Karnal stood aloof when these great issues are at stake and when all your neighbours are rallying to the good cause ? If you are to avoid that reproach all must help—the Muhammadan Nawabs of historic houses and the

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great Sikh Jagirdars, both of whom have a fine record of loyal service in the past—the officials of all grades, zaildars, lambardars, sahu-kars and zamindars of every class—Jats, Brahmins, Rajputs, Gujars, Muhammadan and Hindu, town and country. The arrangements for recruiting have now been organized by the Civil authorities in communication with Major Pye and his Assistant so as to give every possible facility.

The recruits we now ask for are required only for the term of the war and six months after. They can then return to their homes and their fields. They receive on enrolment a bonus of Rs. 50 which they can, if they choose, leave with their families; they go then for six or eight months' training before proceeding on service. If they are fortunate enough to be on service and take part in the final triumph they will return home with the King-Emperor's medal on their breast to prove that they have played a man's part in the great struggle for the defence of the Empire and of their hearths and homes. With this prospect before him, I cannot understand why any *jawan* fit for the army should hold back. I expect therefore within the next year to see a friendly rivalry between the various classes—Jats, Brahmins, Ahirs, Rajputs, Gujars, Hindu and Muhammadan—which will secure in Karnal results equal to those of other districts. If those results are achieved, it will be a pleasure to me to come here in the cold weather, as suggested by your Commissioner, to congratulate the people of Karnal and to show by the distribution of honours and *khillats* that Government is not slow to recognise loyal work and patriotic sacrifice. *Izzat*, as I have often said, is the reward of *khidmat* and there is no *khidmat* which Government values more highly or will reward more generously than that which I am now asking you to perform.

How highly it is appreciated by the King-Emperor and the Queen Empress will appear from the gracious message which Her Majesty has addressed to the widows, mothers and daughters of the Indian soldiers who have given their lives for their country and which will be read out to you before the proceedings close.

Gurgaon has already given over 8,000 men to the army and will, I know, give many thousands more. When your Commissioner can inform me that Karnal is likely to raise 7,000 men within a year, I shall consider you have done your duty.

**8—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Ambala on the
1st August 1917.**

DARBARIS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE AMBALA, ROHTAK AND HISSAR DISTRICTS.—I am glad to welcome to this meeting so many representatives of the Ambala, Hissar and Rohtak Districts. I may say, at the outset, that it is a great satisfaction to us all that the abundant rains of the last few days have removed all possible anxiety and given promise of an abundant harvest in this Division. As I explained at Karnal two days ago, I am holding these meetings for two reasons, to present in the first place publicly the honours and rewards which have been sanctioned by His Excellency the Viceroy and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for those gentlemen who have rendered distinguished service in connection with the war, and my second object is to encourage and stimulate similar service on the part of others.

One of the most striking features of the war has been the great outburst of martial and patriotic spirit among the people of Rohtak. This has won for the district the honour of a special visit from His Excellency the Viceroy last cold weather, and on that occasion he was pleased to testify to the splendid work done in the first instance by Rohtak and, secondly, by the neighbouring districts of Hissar and Gurgaon. It is, therefore, a special pleasure to me to-day to have the opportunity of conferring on Rohtak men no less than four titles of honour which have been granted by His Excellency in recognition of war services. This is a unique distinction, but it is only a partial recognition of the great part which Rohtak is playing in the present war.

Other rewards—*jagirs*, titles, grants of land and *khillats*—have been given and still more will, I hope, follow. In addition to the gentlemen who have been honoured here to-day, I would specially refer to the valuable war services of the Hon'ble Mr. Lal Chand and of Honorary Captain Hanwant Singh, who, I am glad to see, has come here to-day to stimulate the people of the Ambala District. No

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two men in this part of the Punjab have done more to inspire the people of their own and neighbouring districts with a sense of patriotic duty, and much as they have already accomplished, I am confident that they will accomplish still more.

To come to the Hissar District. The Hissar District was at first slow in coming forward, but in the last year has made great progress and that is recognised in the titles, *khillats* and swords of honour which it has been my privilege to announce to-day. In Rohtak and Hissar there has been a healthy rivalry between all classes—Jats, Rajputs, Brahmins, Ahirs, Gujars, Hindu and Muhammadan. But I must confess to some disappointment in regard to one class—the Bishnois of Hissar and Ferozepore. Two years ago at Hissar a special deputation of the Bishnois waited on me, professed their eagerness to serve in the army, and asked that I should use my influence with the Military authorities to get the ban on their enlistment removed. With some diffidence I did so ; but though recruiting was thrown open to the Bishnois, very few came forward, and I am afraid of those who were enrolled a number soon deserted. My face was blackened by this failure, but I trust it is not too late for the Bishnois to redeem their good name. If they miss this opportunity they are never likely to have such another. For I have no hesitation in saying that hereafter the strongest claim to consideration, whether social, economic or political, that a tribe or community can put forward, is the fact that it made a worthy response to the call of the King Emperor in this great war. I wish to emphasise that fact not only in relation to the Bishnois but as one of general application.

Now, Gentlemen, I come to the Ambala District. It has a population bigger than that of Rohtak and nearly as big as that of Hissar, but Rohtak has given four times and Hissar twice as many men to the army. On the 1st January 1917, Rohtak had 10,201 combatants in the army, Hissar 5,581, Ambala only 2,610, and of this last number about 70 per cent. have been taken from the small community of Jat Sikhs. Since then up to 1st July Rohtak has furnished 2,763 recruits, Hissar 1,340, Ambala only 437. I admit that in other respects Ambala has not done badly ; in private contributions to various war funds and in its solicitude for the sick and wounded in hospital it has shown a commend-

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able spirit : but the fact remains that in its subscriptions to the War Loan, Ambala, in spite of its greater wealth, its big city and cantonment is still a long way behind Rohtak and Hissar.

I will not say that this difference is due to lack of patriotism or martial spirit. I prefer to think it is due to lack of organisation and of united effort in the past. We have now an admirable local recruiting organisation established by the District Officers in communication with Major Pye and his Assistants. We shall have an Assistant Recruiting Officer beside a District Assistant Recruiting Officer. I look to Ambala with these facilities to rise to the occasion and come into line with its neighbours. We are now in the last stage of the war, and though for the last year victory has crowned our arms in every theatre—in Mesopotamia, in Egypt, East Africa, France and in Flanders—and the power of the enemy has been steadily shaken, it is not yet shattered, and a great effort is still needed to bring the war to a speedy and successful conclusion.

Even here in India, where we are protected by the British fleet from the immediate horrors of war, we are beginning to be conscious of the losses, suffering and distress which the war has brought in its wake. The British Isles with a population of 45 millions of men, women and children has now five millions serving in the Army and half a million in the Navy, besides three or four millions on works such as munitions, shipbuilding and coal-mining which are indispensable for the prosecution of the war. In all, there are, perhaps, 10 millions engaged in these spheres. The colonies out of a total population of some 15 millions have a million men under arms.

By comparison with these colossal figures India's contribution of man-power may be small ; but we in the Punjab feel proud of the fact that we are doing more than all the rest of India. Of 294,000 men in the combatant ranks of the Indian Army on the 1st January last, 147,000 or exactly one-half came from the Punjab, and if we exclude the gallant Gurkhas from outside India our proportion of the total combatant forces was 58 per cent. In the future, as in the past, it is to the Punjab that Government looks, and looks with confidence, to supply the bulk of the fighting men. It is for us to show that that confidence is not misplaced. But to achieve the results expected from us we must treble our

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efforts. I say this advisedly, for we must within the next year raise as many men as we have raised in the three years since the war began.

That may seem a large demand, but I should explain that it is only a temporary one. The men now enrolled receive as you know a bonus of Rs. 50, and they are asked to serve only for the term of the war and six months afterwards. I would ask you to bear that point particularly in mind. It will be, perhaps, for two years at the outside and possibly much less.

They can then return to their homes and fields, most of them, I hope, wearing the King's medal on their breasts to prove to the world that they have done their duty by their King and country and have played a man's part in overthrowing the German tyranny. That tyranny, as previous speakers told us, and as we know from bitter experience, carries with it intolerance, devastation and persecution. Gentlemen, if it was successful in Europe, it was meant to overrun India through Baghdad, Persia and Afghanistan. That was the settled design of Germany, but the bravery of our troops, British and Indian, has enabled us to avert that menace. Baghdad, which was to be the German base for an attack on India, is now in our hands and is the outer line of defence of the Indian Empire. Our Indian Army at the Front is now mainly concentrated in Mesopotamia where by its gallant achievements it is not only helping to overthrow the enemy in Europe but is defending the hearths and homes of us here in Hindustan.

I doubt if these cardinal facts are sufficiently recognised and I would, therefore, ask you, Gentlemen, in the recruiting campaign which is now being organised, to put them before your people. I would appeal to all classes of the Ambala Division—the big jagirdars who owe so much to Government, and have such a fine record of loyalty, the communal and tribal leaders in town and country, the pensioned Native Officers of whom I am glad to see many here to-day, and who have eaten the salt of the *sarkar*, the zaildars, lambardars and zamindars—to make a great and united effort worthy of the South-East Punjab.

Rohtak has set you a good example of what can be accomplished. It is third of the 253 districts in India in supplying man-power to the Indian Army. Let Rohtak strive to overtake Pindi and Jhelum, which are at present

first and second and let Hissar and Gurgaon, which are already doing so well, endeavour to catch Rohtak and finally let the old and historical districts of Ambala and Karnal remove the reproach, that they are not playing at present a part worthy of their population, of their traditions or of their resources. I shall carefully watch the results of this appeal as the recruiting figures by districts come in month by month, and I have every hope that I shall be able hereafter to congratulate the Ambala District as well as the other districts of the Ambala Division on the success of their efforts. As your Commissioner has indicated, if Ambala achieves the results expected of it, it will be a great pleasure to me to come here next year and distribute the honours and rewards which it will have thereby gained.

9—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Ludhiana on the 3rd August 1917.

GENTLEMEN,—I have to thank you for attending this Darbar in such large numbers despite the inclement weather which has ushered in the day, but I am sure you will overlook any inconvenience you may have suffered in consideration of the benefits which the heavy rain will assure to you in the promise of an abundant harvest.

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And now, Gentlemen, I turn to the matter with which we are specially concerned to-day. Three years ago, as you have reminded me, when I referred to the gallant deeds of the Sikh Regiments that are so closely connected with Ludhiana, you and I little thought that they would be so soon again put to the test. They have since then been through the fiery furnace in the great battlefields of Flanders, Gallipoli and Mesopotamia, for wherever the British flag flies the Sikh soldier is there to uphold it, and they have come out of that terrible test with a more glorious record and a still higher reputation. Probably but few—too few—of the gallant men of the gallant 14th and 15th Sikhs who went to the Front in France nearly three years ago now survive. You have appropriately quoted the historic passage which commemorates the great deeds of the 14th Sikhs at Gallipoli on 4th June 1915, when that gallant regiment was almost annihilated. They died a glorious death, but their memory survives as a splendid illustration of Sikh tenacity and Sikh heroism, and I hope that some day—and that before long—their great achievement will be commemorated in the same way as that of the heroes of Saragarhi. It is an admitted fact that the Sikh spirit instead of being daunted by that terrible sacrifice of Gallipoli was roused thereby to a higher pitch of martial ardour. I remember well that when the news was made public numbers of my Sikh friends came to see me not with sorrow but with a feeling of pride at the heroic sacrifice, and it is a matter of history that from that day the Sikh eagerness for recruiting received its

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strongest impulse. That, Gentlemen, is the true spirit of an indomitable race which fears only disgrace, but is proud of an honourable death ; that is the spirit which has enabled your committee not only to fill the gaps made by the war, but to provide thousands of fighting men over and above, that is the spirit which in the concluding words of your address will enable you to keep on sending "men to the Army in ever-increasing numbers till victory is achieved." I may say that what Ludhiana has already done is remarkable. On the 1st January Ludhiana had 8,037 fighting men in the Army. Only five districts—Rawalpindi, Jhelum, Rohtak, Gujrat and Amritsar—had a larger number, but if regard be had to population, Ludhiana and Rohtak, with 9 per cent. of the male population of military age, under arms rank equal, and come third below Pindi and Jhelum, but above Gujrat and Amritsar. You also rightly claim to be at the head of the Sikh districts, for though Amritsar has a total of 8,174 against your total of 8,037, you can boast of 6,787 Sikhs while Amritsar has only 6,678. The Ludhiana Sikhs have made, as your Commissioner has stated, and will, I am sure, continue to make splendid response, but I would draw attention to the figures quoted by Mr. Hallifax which show that the Muhammadans and Hindus of the fighting classes have hitherto done very little and we now look to them to do their share in maintaining the good name of their district.

Since the 1st January last Ludhiana has produced 538 combatant recruits and you have the satisfaction of knowing that in a Division, where all Districts except Ferozepore have done well, you stood first, Hoshiarpur with 8,027 fighting men was, however, only 10 behind on the 1st January and has recently surpassed you, having recruited over 1,000 men in the last six months. I mention this as I shall follow with interest within the next eight months your friendly competition with Hoshiarpur and with Amritsar. As you have already explained in your address, the ground has already been prepared by the efforts of your committee, the good seed has been sown, and I am confident that the harvest will now be forthcoming in the further thousands of men which you will provide to complete the final triumph. The fine collection of sturdy recruits which I have seen outside—all enlisted yesterday—gives good promise of what you can do.

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The drain on your manhood, already considerable, will no doubt be increased ; but under the conditions of recruiting now established, as Mr. Hallifax has explained, it will be only temporary. The men are required only for the term of the war and for six months afterwards, probably no more than two years at the outside, and those who now come forward in addition to other advantages will be able to share in the final overthrow of German cruelty and German aggression, and having done so, will be able to return to their lands and their homes with the feeling that they have done their duty to their King, their religion and their country. This is a sacred cause that will appeal to all, Hindus, Muhammadans and Sikhs, as has been pointed out by all the speakers to-day.

As I have said before, Punjab loyalty and Punjab valour are not to be bartered or sold for money or reward. But at the same time it is the duty of a just Government to show its recognition of those qualities. The grants of *jagirs* and lands which have already been made and to which you have alluded in your address show that Government is not slow to reward good and loyal service. The honours, titles and rewards which His Excellency the Viceroy and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief have recently sanctioned and specially authorised me to announce to-day—those are of a class and on a scale of which you, as representatives of the Ludhiana District and I as head of the Province, may both be equally proud.

It was a special pleasure to me to announce the grant of the title of Raja to Sardar Badan Singh, C.S.I., of Malaudh, who has always been conspicuous for his staunch loyalty to Government and is one of the finest representatives of the old Sikh aristocracy, being closely connected with His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, who is rendering such splendid services to the Empire in the present war. In conferring the title of Sardar Bahadur on Sardar Rajindra Singh of Pakhoke, Government is recognising the distinguished services of another branch of the same historic and loyal Sikh family. The grant of the title of Sardar Bahadur to Sardar Ragbir Singh of Ludhiana a year ago was equally appropriate. He is one of the most zealous members of your Recruiting Committee and has set a fine example by withdrawing his son from the Chiefs' College to enlist him

as a sowar in the Cavalry, where I am glad to hear that in a short time he has won rapid promotion to the post of Jamadar, and brought further honour to a distinguished family. Chaudhri Nand Lal, who has done valuable work for the Supply and Transport, has been selected for the title of Rai Sahib by the Military authorities. No less than seven gentlemen from this district have been selected for the grant of swords of honour—a particularly appropriate recognition of war services, and one which will be treasured in their families for centuries to come. I regret that it has not been possible to give the swords to-day, but I may say that they will bear inscriptions recording the services for which they have been bestowed. Of the recipients I would refer particularly to the services of the Hon'ble Sardar Bahadur Gajjan Singh, whose enthusiasm and powers of organisation have done so much to raise the *izzat* of his native district, and Sardar Bahadur Arjan Singh, who has actively used his great influence, spiritual and temporal, in the Malwa on the side of the administration and has been particularly vigorous in encouraging recruiting among his thousands of followers. The recognition which he has to-day received will, I am sure, stimulate him to further efforts. The district may be rightly proud of the special recognition it has earned. I doubt if any district in the Province can show more, and I would remind you that you owe this in great measure to your Deputy Commissioner, Sheikh Asghar Ali, who has so wisely and tactfully directed and controlled the various organisations which have produced these splendid results. And here I must make a passing reference to your generous contributions to the Punjab Aeroplane Fund, to St. John Ambulance and other War Relief Funds, and your splendid subscriptions to the War Loan. Your Deputy Commissioner informs me that these already aggregate over 18 lakhs and he is confident that they will finally exceed 25 lakhs of rupees. That for a district with a population of only 5 lakhs and with no big city or large industries is indeed remarkable. I am never tired of saying that co-operation of Government and its officers with the people and their leaders is the basis of our policy in the Punjab. The history of Ludhiana within the last three years is one striking example of what that co-operation can accomplish, and the response which the district will make within the next 9 or 10 months to the call for men will, I am confident, furnish yet another illustration of similar successful effort.

10—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Ferozepore on the 4th August 1917.

DARBARIS OF FEROZEPORE AND GENTLEMEN OF THE FEROZEPORE, JULLUNDUR AND HOSHIARPUR DISTRICTS,—I welcome you here this afternoon. As the Commissioner has explained, my object in inviting you to meet me was—(1) to announce and distribute the honours and rewards sanctioned by Government in these three districts for distinguished services in the war; (2) to stimulate all, and especially those who have hitherto held back, to a sense of their duty. I have within the last week held similar meetings at Karnal, Ambala and Ludhiana, attended by representatives of various districts. I have been able to give special congratulations to Rohtak and Ludhiana for their splendid response to the call for recruits and to commend Gurgaon and Hissar for the increasing success of their efforts. I have also been able to show how ready Government is to recognise good services in this crisis by the grant of honours, *khillats* and *inams*. In the case of Ambala and Karnal I had to point out that the people have hitherto failed in their duty and have consequently failed so far to earn the recognition of Government. I should like to be able to place Ferozepore in the same class with Rohtak and Ludhiana, but to my great regret I have to place it in the same class as Ambala and Karnal, that is, among the districts which have not awakened to their duty. The figures which the Commissioner has quoted tell their own tale.

Ferozepore, as he has told us, is the richest and most populous district in the Jullundur Division. It has the biggest Sikh population of any district in the Province and yet it stands lowest in the Jullundur Division in the number of men supplied to the Army. On 1st January 1917 the figures were—

Ludhiana—8,037, or 1 man out of 11 of military age.

Hoshiarpur—8,027, or 1 man out of 19 of military age.

Kangra—6,851, or 1 man out of 18 of military age.

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Jullundur—5,045, or 1 man out of 27 of military age.

Ferozepore—3,458, or 1 man out of 47 of military age.

Even if we add the figures of recruiting from 1st January to 1st July, results are not much better—

Hoshiarpur has given 1,461 combatants and non-combatants.

Ludhiana has given 673 combatants and non-combatants.

Jullundur has given 749 combatants and non-combatants.

Ferozepore has given only 617 combatants and non-combatants.

I must confess that while Hoshiarpur is making a splendid effort, which for the time being has placed it first in the Division, the figures are disappointing as regards Jullundur and particularly so for Ferozepore. They are certainly not what I or any one who knew the people of Ferozepore had expected. When I spoke to you at the beginning of the war in the Darbar of January 1915 I ventured to say that there were few districts in India which had sent so large a proportion of their manhood to the front. At that time I was thinking of the 14th, 15th and 36th Sikhs and other distinguished regiments who have since done so well on the fields of France and elsewhere. I am afraid that the position is very different now, and that Ferozepore instead of being among the first is among the last of the districts of the Province in its rally to the cause of the King-Emperor.

In other respects it is true that the district has not been slow to do its duty. It has subscribed generously to the various War Funds, the Relief Fund, the Aeroplane Fund and to the War Loan. It has organised a most flourishing branch of the Red Cross, which, with Rai Sahib Ram Rakha Mal as its efficient Secretary, has done particularly valuable work in training compounders and dressers. In the matter of maintaining internal order many of the leading men have rendered valuable assistance to the administration, and I was glad to be in a position to recognise this by the grant of *khillats* and *sanads* to the gentlemen of the Sikh Committee. For all these the district deserves credit. But in the present crisis it is not money the King-Emperor wants from you but men, and it would be a lasting disgrace to the

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district if, as the Commissioner has stated, you were to buy recruits from outside instead of providing them from the 165,000 men of military age which the district possesses, of whom there were on the 1st January last less than 4,000 in the army. Men are wanted to replace the wastage in old and gallant regiments such as the 14th Ferozepore Sikhs, which was almost annihilated in Gallipoli two years ago, but has established for itself an undying memorial of Sikh steadfastness and Sikh heroism. Men are also wanted to raise the strength of existing regiments, and they are wanted to form new units now being raised, *e.g.*, the 2nd Battalion of 54th Sikhs; in a word they are wanted to take part in the final overthrow of the Germans and the Turks and thereby to save India from the danger of attack.

You have seen how races hitherto unaccustomed to arms have responded to the call. You have read how a battalion, 1,000 strong, has been raised from the *bhadra log* of Bengal, a province where the military tradition had entirely died out, and after eight months' training in which they are said to have proved themselves keen and capable soldiers have now been sent to face the Germans and Turks in Mesopotamia, where we are sure they will profit by the material example and martial experience of our gallant Punjab Regiments fighting by their side. Here in Ferozepore you have recently seen the Signalling Section raised from the University students which I am told won high opinions from the military authorities, and has now been sent to Poona for final training before going to the Front. Those were young men, who did not come from military families. You have also here the new battalion of Punjabi Christians that is being rapidly raised and which hopes to take part in the final struggle. With these examples before you it is to me unintelligible why the Sikhs, Hindus and Muhammadans of Ferozepore should now hold back.

The district of Ferozepore is full of martial memories and martial associations. The Sikhs of Ferozepore have always been particularly famous in arms; the battlefields of Mudki, Ferozeshahr and Sabraon are there to remind you of the gallant struggle which the *Khalsa* fought against the British 70 years ago. In the Mutiny 10 years later there are the traditions of the splendid service of the Sikhs on the British side; since the Mutiny there have been campaigns in all quarters in which the Sikhs have taken their

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part ; and there are the traditions come down through the Second Afghan War of 1879-81, through Egypt, and the Sudan to the Tirah campaign of 1897 ; and we have the Saragarhi memorial to remind us of the splendid heroism of 36th Sikhs on the Samana. That glorious episode has now been surpassed by the immortal record of the 14th Ferozepore Sikhs at Gallipoli in June 1915.

With all those glorious associations and traditions, can the Sikhs of Ferozepore continue to hold aloof from the army ? Ludhiana has 7,090 Sikhs serving in the army to-day. If the Ferozepore Sikhs were to come forward in the same proportion as Ludhiana has done, Ferozepore should already have 9,000 Sikhs fighting for the King. It has only 3,000. However, relatively the Sikhs have done their part better than other classes. To turn to the Muhammadans, the facts are still more deplorable. There are nearly 70,000 Muhammadans of fighting age in the district and on 1st January there were only 418 in the army, while Ludhiana, with less than 80,000 of fighting age, has furnished 1,212. Compare the figures with those of the Muhammadan districts of Jhelum and Rawalpindi, which, with a Muhammadan population little greater than that of Ferozepore, had each 14,000 combatants in military service on 1st January against your 418. Hindu recruitment is worst of all. Of the many thousands of Rajputs, Jats, Brahmins and Gujars eligible there were only 13 serving in the army on the 1st January last. In the case of all classes Sikhs, Muhammadans and Hindus, I prefer here as elsewhere to think that the deficiency in the past has been due less to any lack of patriotism or martial spirit than to lack of method and organisation. Since the recruiting arrangements have been placed on a local basis a few months ago there has certainly been some improvement, and you will find the District Officers and Major Lyall, the Recruiting Officer, most anxious to remove any obstacles that impede recruiting.

As you have been told by previous speakers, to make the recruiting campaign a success what is wanted is a united effort on the part of all, officials and non-officials, the leaders of the various communities, spiritual and temporal, the big Sardars who owe their estates to Government and have corresponding duties, the zaildars and lambardars, zamindars and sahu-kars who owe their security to the British fleet and the British Army of which the Indian Army is an integral

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part. A combined effort on the part of all these will raise the thousands of men that may reasonably be expected from Ferozepore and will wipe out the slur which now attaches to the district. This morning at Moga I enquired why there was such enthusiasm for recruiting in Ludhiana and such slackness in Ferozepore. I was told that the reason is that the Ferozepore people have so much land and so much canal irrigation that the army does not attract them. If this is the correct explanation it is a reproach to Ferozepore, it means that the people who owe most to Government do least in return for Government. But if there is any truth in the statement, the people of Ferozepore have still an opportunity of disproving it by now coming forward and showing that they still possess the spirit of their fathers. A cheering indication that the district is waking up from its sleep, is the fine contingent of over 200 recruits, drawn up outside the hall and collected within the last few days. I should, however, like to see non-Sikh Jats and Muhammadans among them.

If any one asks what are the men wanted for, let this be your reply, they are wanted not only to defend the British Empire but to defend your own hearths and homes. Those would be menaced by a German success in Europe or Asia, and it is to protect India that we with our army, mainly composed of troops from India, have driven the Turks and Germans out of Basra and Baghdad, and hold Mesopotamia from Samara for 600 miles down to the sea. Our position there is strong, but it will not be quite secure till we have dealt the final blow to the enemy, who though shaken is not shattered.

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11—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Kasur on the 6th August 1917.

DARBARIS AND GENTLEMEN OF LAHORE AND AMRITSAR DISTRICTS,—I am glad to see so many representative men of the Manjha assembled here to-day in response to my invitation. I have come here, as the Commissioner has told you publicly, to announce and distribute the honours and *khillats* sanctioned to residents of these two districts by Government for distinguished services in the war, and at the same time to encourage the willing to further efforts and arouse those who are unwilling or apathetic to a sense of their duty. I have purposely selected Kasur rather than Lahore for this gathering, because Kasur is the heart of the Manjha, and it is to the manhood of the Manjha, whether in Lahore or Amritsar, whether Sikhs, Muhammadans or Hindus, that I wish to appeal. My first and last visit to the Lahore-Manjha took place over 30 years ago when much of what is now a rich and prosperous country was a barren wilderness. There is, perhaps, no part of the Punjab, outside the Canal Colonies, which has made greater progress in population and prosperity than this part of the Manjha owing to the extension of canals and railways, and yet I regret to say that there is no district in the Central Punjab that has hitherto made such a poor response to the call for men to fight for their King and country. Lahore is the most populous district of this Division: it is in fact the most populous district of the Province: it is foremost in wealth and education but, as pointed out by the Commissioner, it shows the worst results of any district in the Division excepting Gujranwala, where the Sikh population is relatively small, and many tribes, particularly the Muhammadan tribes, have hitherto held aloof from military service. The natural comparison is between Lahore and Amritsar. They are both in the Manjha and both are great Sikh districts: they have the same tribes, the same conditions of agriculture; and though Amritsar has a larger Sikh population (254,000 against 169,000 in Lahore) Lahore has a larger total population by some 200,000 souls. Lahore

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should, therefore, have supplied at least as many men to the army as Amritsar. Yet what are the figures? On the 1st January 1917 Amritsar had 8,174 combatants in the army, Lahore had only 2,657 or less than one-third of what Amritsar had. Amritsar had given one man out of every 18 of fighting age, Lahore only one out of 65. Amritsar was the 5th among the districts of the Punjab in men supplied to the Army, Lahore, though it has the highest population of any district in the Province, only 18th.

On the 1st January, if Lahore had done its duty in the way Amritsar has, it should have had 10,000 fighting men in the Army; actually it had less than 3,000. And now let us see what Lahore has done since. From the 1st January up to the 1st July it supplied 367 combatants and 250 non-combatants or 617 in all. Amritsar in the same period supplied 921 combatants and 704 non-combatants, or a total of 1,625, and in the single month of July Amritsar surpassed all records of any district in the Punjab by furnishing the splendid total of 1,186 men.

Well, Gentlemen, you will see from this comparison that unless Lahore makes a determined effort, and that without delay, it will go down to history as a district which failed to do its duty in the great war. In that case perhaps some future Lieutenant-Governor will revive the scheme of Maharaja Ranjit Singh to remove the capital of the Punjab from Lahore to Amritsar because the people of Amritsar have shown such splendid loyalty and spirit of service for their King and country. In my present tour I have often been assured that it is the desire and the duty of the people to serve their King in the great crisis with *tan*, *man* and *dhan*. Will Lahore allow neighbouring districts to say that while the Sirkar has helped to provide Lahore with *dhan*, Lahore refuses to give in return *tan* and *man*? Will the people of Lahore lay themselves open to the reproach that the spirit of devotion and courage for which the whole Manjha was once famous is now confined to Amritsar and stops short at the Amritsar boundary? The Sikhs of Lahore have no doubt done better than the Muhammadans and Hindus, but their total contribution is only 2,000 men—less than that of a single tahsil in Ludhiana or Amritsar. Will the great Sikh tribes of the Lahore District, Sidhus, Sandhus, Gills, Dhillons, whose name has stood so high in the past and

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whose ancestors have founded by their swords half a dozen principalities in the South Punjab—Patiala, Jind, Nabha, Kalsia and others—will they let it be said that prosperity has deadened their military spirit and sapped their courage, and that these qualities are now only to be found in the Mazhbi and Labana Sikhs? The Muhammadans of Lahore number over 600,000 and the men of military age are over 100,000. The Muhammadans of Jhelum and Pindi are only 90,000 of military age and each has supplied about 14,000 fighting men, Lahore less than 500. Will the great Muhammadan tribes of Lahore—Pathans, Moghuls, Jats, Rajputs, Gujars, Arains—who up to 1st January had sent less than 500 men to the army, allow it to be said hereafter that they took no part in defending their country? The Hindu population of military age is over 35,000. On 1st January there were only *seven* fighting men in the army; Will the Hindus of town and country, the agriculturist classes and the Brahmins, Khattris and Aroras, disregard the injunction of their Shastras that to serve King and country is the first duty of a pious Hindu?

We are, as I have said elsewhere, in the last stage of the war. England and her Colonies have put forth their greatest efforts in men and money. They have nearly seven million men under arms in the Army and Navy. India's contribution of 294,000 men on the 1st January is small by comparison; but it is being steadily increased, mainly with a view to complete the defeat of the Germans and Turks in Mesopotamia and thus to secure India completely against hostile attack from the West. It is hardly necessary to remind you men of the Punjab that every invasion of India has come from the West, and that the Germans hoped, and perhaps still hope, to threaten India from Baghdad, which our troops have taken, but which we must expect to fight for. The men now called for are, therefore, primarily required to safeguard your own homes in the Punjab. Government looks to the Punjab in the future as in the past to supply at least half of the total number of the Indian Army. We take pride in that responsibility, and most of the districts of the Province are coming forward eagerly to meet the call. Even in Ferozepore, which had hitherto been apathetic (though better than Lahore) no less than 300 fine recruits had been collected in a few days to prove to me at Saturday's Darbar that the district had awakened to a sense of its duty.

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I regret to see no such assemblage of recruits here to-day in Lahore, but I am sanguine now that the King-Emperor's call and your own duty have been made clear to you that the sturdy people of Lahore—Sikhs, Muhammadans, Hindus—will no longer hold back.

The recruiting system has now been arranged so as to make things as easy as possible: the recruits now enlisted receive a bonus of Rs. 50 on enrolment, and those who do not wish to serve on can claim their discharge within six months after the end of the war and return to their lands and their families with the feeling that they have helped to bring the war to a victorious conclusion. Those who may meet with a soldier's death know that Government makes generous provision by Relief Funds and pensions for the widow, the orphan and other dependents. The sacrifice they may be called on to make is one which every religion recognises as the most noble that a man can offer for his King and country, and how much it is appreciated by our illustrious King and Queen is shown by the letter which Her Majesty herself addresses in Urdu, Hindi or Gurmukhi to the widow or mother or sister of every Indian soldier who dies in the good cause. A copy of Her Majesty's letter will be read out to you before the Darbar closes.

But after all the proportion of soldiers who are killed even in the biggest war is comparatively small. You have seen the hundreds and thousands of your brethren that have returned safe and sound from the battlefields of France, Africa and Mesopotamia; you see before you to-day scores of retired Indian officers, whose medals and military honours show that they have survived many a hard-fought campaign and are still eating the salt of the *Sirkar* for the *Sirkar* does not forget those who serve it. Those men can hold their heads high. They have done their duty or are still doing it. The tens of thousands of men of military age in the Manjha of Lahore who are still loitering at home when the King-Emperor wants men have still to do their duty, and I look to you all here for your good name and theirs to encourage and stimulate them to do it. You have much ground to make up, the time is short and if you wish to redeem the good name of your clan, your community and your district, you must be up and doing. When you respond adequately to the appeal that has been made to you to-day, it will be a pleasure to me to come here again and to offer you the congratulations and recognition which you will have earned.

12—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Gujranwala on the 8th August 1917.

DARBARIS OF THE GUJРАНWALA DISTRICT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE GUJРАНWALA, SIALKOT AND GURDASPUR DISTRICTS,—I am glad to see such a large number assembled here to-day. It is, I hope, an indication of your interest in the objects for which I have asked you to come together. These objects, I may explain, are—

- (1) To announce and distribute the titles, honours and rewards sanctioned by the Government of India in favour of the individuals in these three districts who have already rendered distinguished services in the war.
- (2) To arouse and stimulate those who have hitherto held back from rendering such services either because they have not recognised the urgency of the call or have not been told in what way they can help.

I congratulate the gentlemen whose services have been publicly honoured to-day by the Government of the King-Emperor. The recognition shown to them is a proof, if proof were needed, that Government is not slow to reward good services, and there is no service which the Government values so highly as service in connection with the war. You will have noticed that most of the honours have gone to the Gurdaspur District which next to Amritsar has the best record of war service in this Division, and that, excepting the two titles of Rai Sahib to Lala Udai Bhan, Civil Surgeon, and Lala Sant Ram, contractor,—both well deserved—Gujranwala has received but little recognition.

When I quote to you the figures showing what each district has done in providing men for the army, which is the form of service that Government needs more than any other, you will understand the reasons for this discrimination. As several speakers have told us Gujranwala has a population larger than Gurdaspur and nearly as large as Sialkot.

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On the 1st January Gurdaspur had 4,384 combatants in the Indian Army or 1 man from every 33 of fighting age ; Sialkot had given 4,343 or 1 in 39 ; Gujranwala had only 2,473 or 1 in 66 (that proportion is even worse than that of Lahore which was 1 in 65) ; Amritsar on 1st January last had 8,174 combatants or 1 in 18 ; and Ludhiana 8,037 or 1 man of every 11 of military age (which is between 18 and 35 years). So that of all the districts in the Central Punjab Gujranwala shows the worst results. I am afraid that no class whether Sikh, Muhammadan or Hindu, can claim to have done its duty.

Here as elsewhere the Sikhs are better than the rest, but they compare badly with the Sikhs of adjoining districts. The Sikh population of Gujrat is only 45,000, that of Gujranwala 108,000, but there were 1,624 Gujrat Sikhs in the army as compared with 1,933 from Gujranwala. If the Gujranwala Sikhs had come forward in the same proportion as the Sikhs of Gujrat they should have had nearly 5,000 men in the army.

The case of Muhammadans is even worse. Gujranwala has about the same Muhammadan population as Gujrat, yet on the 1st January Gujrat had 6,900 Muhammadans in the army, Gujranwala only 417. Gujranwala has 176,000 Hindus, Gujrat only 49,000. Yet Gujrat has 972 Hindus in the army, Gujranwala only 15, *viz.*, 5 Brahmans, 4 Rajputs, 1 Dogra and 5 others.

These are the figures up to 1st January. Since then up to the end of July the numbers of combatants and non-combatants recruited in the Lahore Division have been—

Amritsar	..	..	2,825
Lahore	..	..	2,700
Gurdaspur	..	..	2,076
Sialkot ..	..	..	1,075
Gujranwala	..	..	915

Amritsar and Lahore have supplied three times and Gurdaspur twice as many as Gujranwala which is worse even than Sialkot. I also notice that special arrangements were made to recruit a (Double) Company of Muhammadans from the Phalia and Wazirabad Tahsils. Phalia has already filled up a Company of its own and is now willing to fill another. Wazirabad, I fear, is still a failure. The question we should now ask ourselves is, why has Gujranwala been so backward as compared with its neighbours ? The Sikhs, Muhamma-

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clans and Hindus of Gujranwala have high martial traditions and associations. This town of Gujranwala is famous as being the home of Mahan Singh, and the birthplace of the great Maharaja Ranjit Singh and also of the great Sikh General Hari Singh Nalwa whose name is famous from Delhi to Kabul. Some of Ranjit Singh's most famous generals, such as Misr Diwan Chand of Gondlanwala and the Sardars of Butala, Ruriala, Eminabad and Mananwala, belonged to the district and their descendants still live here. In the Second Sikh Campaign of Chillianwala and Gujrat many of those families fought on our side and nearly all of them rallied to the British cause in the Mutiny and won honours and rewards. Some of them still follow arms as a profession, and there are no finer soldiers. Among them I might mention Sardar Bahadur Sant Singh Chimni now Resaldar-Major, 22nd Cavalry, for whom I got a commission 23 years ago, and who has done, his Colonel informs me, splendid work in raising recruits for his regiment. But these cases are comparatively few, and the Sikh Sardars and Sikh clans as a whole have not hitherto played the part expected of them. As the Commissioner has told you, most of the Sikhs recruited are Labanas or Mazhbis from the Colonies, and the great Virak tribe which should do so much to provide fighting men has done but little. To the Gujranwala Sikhs I would quote the stirring words of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala in addressing his Sikhs on August 4th—

“We may take a legitimate pride in having amongst us men true as steel who have given the Punjab the proud title of the ‘Sword hand of India.’ These men you have willingly offered in thousands and tens of thousands, and these I hope you will continue to bring forward with a willing heart. For it behoves all of you as true disciples of the Guru to come forward and assist the British Government at its hour of trial to-day with all the might that in you lies.”

Similarly, there are many martial Muhammadan tribes. The Chathas, Barars, Bhattis, Lodhikes fought a good fight for many years against the great Maharaja; they rendered valuable assistance to the British Army at Chillianwala and Gujrat, and won further distinctions in the Mutiny. Some of their leaders like Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Karm Ilahi, Chatha, Chaudhri Ghulam Kadir, Zaildar of Kot Bhagu, and Khan Dauran Khan, Bhatti, of Sangla, have now set a good example by offering their sons and relatives, but as a body they have done little. What is 500 or 600 fighting

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men from among the 6½ lakhs of Gujranwala Muhammadans. If, therefore, it is urged as a reason for holding back that the Gujranwala tribes are not accustomed to the idea of Military Service, I would reply—

- (1) that these tribes, whether Sikhs, Hindus or Muhammadans, have shown their fighting qualities in the past and should do so again ; and
- (2) that even if the reason were a correct one, in the present crisis thousands of men who had no connection with the army have come forward to serve their King and country.

Look at the battalion of 1,000 Bengalis which has now gone to the front, look at the new battalion of Punjabi Christians already 900 strong which I saw a few days ago at Ferozepore and has been raised from the Christians of Gurdaspur, Sialkot, Gujranwala and Lyallpur through the special efforts of the Rev. Mr. Clarke of the Church Missionary Society. What previous connection with the army had those Bengalis and these Punjabi Christians ? Are you, the hereditary owners of the soil who owe so much to Government, to allow your battles to be fought for you by men who were formerly your *kamins* ? I have spent many years in this district ; I know the leading men and count many of them as my personal friends. I know how much they owe to the great canals which Government has constructed. Many of them have also received and some perhaps still expect to receive land, honours, rewards and appointments from Government. But those grants of land, honours, etc., are meant to be the reward of *khidmat*, and I ask where is the *khidmat* ? A few, no doubt, have done well, but as a body the leading men of this district are still apathetic. If you fail to seize this opportunity you are not likely to have another. When you press your claims on Government or its officers hereafter you will be asked, what did you do for your Government and your country in the time of need ? And what answers can you then give ?

Moreover, your neighbours in Gujrat, Amritsar and Gurdaspur will point the finger of scorn at Gujranwala, and say, "that is the district which stood aloof in the great war when we gave our manhood in tens of thousands to fight for the *Sarkar*." It will be said that you were either too cowardly or too well off to do your duty. If those things are said, and they certainly will be said, what *izzat* will you have

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with Government or your neighbours? You have still a chance—a last chance—of making good the lost ground, of coming into line with your neighbours and of redeeming the good name of your clan, your race and your district. In matters other than recruiting you have shown yourself good and loyal citizens, you have helped to maintain peace and order in these last critical years. You have made a useful subscription to the War Loan and have contributed generously to the various War Funds, Relief Fund, Aeroplane Fund, Red Cross, and the district has lately presented through the Comforts Fund a Motor Ambulance for Mesopotamia—a most valuable gift—for which Lady O'Dwyer asks me particularly to thank you. Your Civil Surgeon, with the generous assistance received from the district board, from Diwan Mangal Sen and from Sardar Bahadur Kirpal Singh, has been able to train and despatch for service with the troops a valuable body of compounders and dressers and more are still under training. You have succeeded in all these matters because you took the trouble to organise. If you organise in the same way to promote recruiting you can be equally successful. The men are there in tens of thousands, and it only needs example, explanation and exhortation by the leading men to make the young manhood to rally to the call of the King-Emperor.

Let the leading men of the various communities, Sikhs, Muhammadans, Hindus, of the great agricultural tribes, Viraks, Varaiches, Chimas, Chathas, Bhattis, Barars, Kharals, the Honorary Magistrates, Zaildars, Chaudhris, Lambardars each in his sphere of influence exert himself; let them form committees, let them point out in village gatherings that the King-Emperor wants men to protect India against the German and the Turk, to complete the victories already achieved with the help of the gallant Indian regiments in France, Egypt, Africa and, above all, Mesopotamia, and to bring the war to a speedy conclusion.

Let them make it clear to the ignorant that the outer line of defence of India is in Mesopotamia: it is there that new regiments and reinforcements are mainly wanted to hold the line 600 miles long from the Persian Gulf to the north of Baghdad from which we have expelled the Germans and the Turks who were threatening India. Let them point out how splendidly other districts are responding to the call

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for men. Amritsar in July *alone* supplied 1,200 and Gurdaspur 800. If Gujranwala were only to do altogether what Gujrat has already done it would have furnished over 12,000 men instead of 3,000. That, after all, would only be 1 man out of every 14 of fighting age, and I hope within the next 8 or 9 months that Gujranwala will have supplied at least that number, and that Gurdaspur and Sialkot will have exceeded it.

Now, Gentlemen, only one word more as to the future. As Lieutenant-Governor I am proud, intensely proud, of what the Punjab as a whole has already done to meet the needs of the Empire. I am confident that I shall have reason to be still more proud of the Province for the further response it will make within the next 8 or 9 months ; but it would be to me, in leaving the Punjab, a cause of pain and regret if my old district were to be one of the few in which the response had been unwilling or inadequate.

13—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Rawalpindi on the 30th October 1917.

GENERAL SIR A. BARRETT, COLONEL POPHAM YOUNG, DARBARIS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE RAWALPINDI, ATTOCK AND MIANWALI DISTRICTS,—It gives me much pleasure to welcome you here to-day in this spacious hall which the authorities of the Khalsa High School, anxious to identify themselves with the objects of this Darbar, have so courteously placed at our disposal. We are glad to see in our midst so distinguished a soldier as General Sir A. Barrett who now commands the Northern Army and so many military officers, British and Indian, on the active and the retired lists, whose presence here is a proof of the common bond uniting us all in a matter of vital concern to the Indian Army and to the Indian Empire, namely, the mobilization of our man-power for the defence of the Empire. Over 6 months have elapsed since the military authorities decided that the civil administration should in this crisis be directly associated with the work of recruitment. We cheerfully accepted the responsibility, and we recognize that such measure of success as has been achieved is largely due to the cordial co-operation and good-will of the military authorities who have ever been ready to place at our disposal their advice and experience. The Commissioner has reminded us that at the first public Darbar I held in Rawalpindi in August 1913, I had occasion to comment on the increase of violent crime and lawlessness which at that time formed a blot on the good name of the loyal and sturdy population of this Division. I then made an earnest appeal to all classes to co-operate with the administration in restoring law and order. Over 4 years have passed since then, during three of which we have been enduring the strain of the greatest war in history. To-day I am in the happy position of being able to congratulate the officers and people of this Division on the restoration of internal order and security, on the steady loyalty that all classes have shown in a period of unprecedented stress and trial, and above all on the splendid response the fighting classes have made to

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the call for men to safeguard India and the British Empire against external aggression. In a speech last month in the Imperial Council I described the signal services of the Punjab in this war with an emphasis which some people considered excessive as it involved a comparison with other provinces and their action during the war. But while I had and have no intention to disparage the efforts of other provinces or to criticise individuals who may be working loyally for the common cause, I still adhere to my argument that the loyal services of the Punjab in providing men, money and materials for the Empire stand out pre-eminent and establish a special claim on the consideration of Government. Even within the last three months the Punjab has raised 39,000 fighting men, which is considerably above what the rest of India has raised within the same period. I also re-affirm my contention that the services of the martial classes, on whom the burden of sacrifice has fallen, are receiving, and should continue to receive, prior recognition from Government, and that as the so-called political concessions will be of less benefit to them than to other classes, we have to look round for forms of recognition and reward which they regard as suitable and desirable. I have already indicated some of them in my Simla speech of which extracts will be distributed to you, and I need not dwell further on the matter now. To-day I am concerned with the Rawalpindi Division, and you may take pride in the fact that as the Punjab stands out first of the provinces of India, similarly Rawalpindi stands first among the Divisions of the province in the matter of war services. I shall have occasion the day after-tomorrow to refer in more detail to the part which the Jhelum, Gujrat and Shahpur Districts have played in the great rally we have made and are making. To-day, though I am specially addressing the representatives of Rawalpindi, Attock and Mianwali Districts, it is convenient in some respects to deal with the Rawalpindi Division as a whole. My object in holding this Darbar has been threefold. I desire to present in this great military centre, the citadel of Northern India and the head-quarters of the Northern Army, the honours and rewards already earned by distinguished war services and to announce, with the special permission of His Excellency the Viceroy, the further titles which the Government of India have decided to confer. I desire to congratulate once more the people of this Division and their leaders on the success of their efforts to furnish the Indian

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Army with the man-power that it requires : and I also wish to stimulate the willing to fresh endeavour and to arouse the apathetic to a sense of their duty to their King and country. In March 1915 I was able to state that out of 45,000 men recruited for the Indian Army since the outbreak of war this Division's share was 11,000. To-day your Commissioner has calculated the total existing contribution of his Division at the splendid figure of 75,000. Gentlemen, from the latest figures supplied to me by the military authorities I find that this estimate, which takes no account of wastage by casualties, retirement and disease or of the numbers of men enlisted in local militias and military police who constitute part of the armed forces of India, is below the mark. Counting in the men who were already serving when war broke out, this Division has supplied at least 100,000 men to the regular army of whom about five-sixths are combatants. That is to say, out of the entire male population which is under 2 millions one man in every 18, or if we limit our calculations to the men of fighting age, one man in every 6 is serving in defence of the Empire. And not only have the men done their part, but the women have inspired and encouraged the men to play a man's part, and yesterday at Campbellopur it was my privilege to distribute *sanads* and *khillats* to a Muhammadan widow who had given all three sons to the army and lost two of them, and to a Hindu widow who had sent her four sons to fight.

In this Division the overwhelming majority of the population are followers of the faith of Islam. To-day you have seen honours bestowed on representatives of the Sikh and Hindu communities who, true to their traditions and in emulation of their Muhammadan brethren, have exerted their influence in aid of the cause for which we are battling. But over 90 per cent. of the recruits enlisted in the army from the six districts of the Division are drawn from the hardy tribes who are classed under the generic name of Punjabi Muhammadans : and to them the main credit for the remarkable achievements of this Division must be ascribed. Five and twenty years ago the splendid martial qualities of the Punjabi Muhammadans were scarcely recognized save by the officers who possessed a local knowledge of their traditions, of their steady valour and inflexible loyalty. When I was in Shahpur in 1889 military service was almost unknown among the great Awan tribe of the Salt Range, and I remember helping to collect some of the first recruits

for the then newly raised Hong Kong Regiment. It was only when the re-organization of the army took place some 20 years ago in accordance with the advice of that great soldier Lord Roberts, that the merits of the Punjabi Muhammadans as soldiers came to be appreciated at their proper worth. To-day the finest regiments of the Indian Army pride themselves in having so many squadrons or so many Companies of Punjabi Muhammadans on their strength.

Of the fighting qualities of the men you have sent to the front it is perhaps not for me to speak. But in the many letters I have received and seen from officers in the various theatres of war, there is nothing but praise for the gallantry and endurance of the Punjabi Muhammadan whether as a fighting man or as a follower. Wherever he has been called on to serve, in Europe, in Asia or in Africa, whether in Flanders, Gallipoli, Egypt, the Cameroons, East Africa, Mesopotamia, China or on our own frontier—whatever the theatre of war, whatever the conditions of service—the Punjabi Muhammadan has ever won the admiration and affection of his officers. He has sought no advertisement : he has claimed no rewards for his patriotism : it has sufficed for him to do his duty as a very gallant man. You have supplied to an extent unprecedented in India the flower of your manhood to fight for a just and noble cause. The war record of the martial tribes of these districts—Ghakkars, Janjuas, Tiwanas, Awans, Jodhras, Ghebas, Bhangikhel and Sagri Pathans, Alpials, Mairs, Manhas and Khattars—is adding a glorious page to the annals of the Indian Army, and will further enhance the name and the honour of those clans who are daily proving that their saying “*Izzat is dearer than life*” is no empty phrase. I could cite numerous instances which have been furnished to me by the military authorities, but time will allow me to mention but two or three. In one of these episodes figures a gallant soldier whom we are all glad to see amidst us to-day. In Mesopotamia it was necessary on one occasion to fetch a boat from across the Karun river under heavy fire from the enemy. Volunteers were called for : and the Hon’ble Captain Ajab Khan, I.O.M., a Chhachhi Pathan of the Attock District, at once undertook the perilous task with 19 Punjabis of his regiment. They stripped and swam the river. The swift current bore this brave party downstream, forcing them to land under the walls of a fort which was subsequently found to be strongly held by the enemy. The intrepid

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Punjabis attempted to launch one boat but it was damaged and sank : but an attempt with a second boat was more successful, and under fire this was brought safely across the river. Take another instance : Subedar Hukam Dad and 8 Punjabi Muhammadans of a frontier regiment were recently brought to notice for special gallantry in the defence of a picquet at Barwand on the night of the 19-20th June of this year. From 200 to 300 Mahsuds made three determined efforts to rush the picquet and were only stopped within five yards of the position. This picquet successfully maintained its ground until dawn, although it lost one-third of its strength. Such examples of signal bravery might be multiplied indefinitely. And now I trust that you will bear with me, Gentlemen, while I turn to the records of individual districts. I take first the Rawalpindi District. In population it stands 20th of the 28 districts in the Province, but in the numbers furnished to the combatant and non-combatant ranks of the army it has the proud distinction of standing first among the 253 districts of all India. From the first days of the war the people and their leaders, inspired by their martial traditions and steady loyalty, have rallied to the standard of their King-Emperor in such numbers that at the present day nearly 30,000 men are serving in the army of whom 21,000 have enrolled themselves since July 1914. Of men of military age in Rawalpindi more than one in every three is in the army or its auxiliary services—the great bulk in the fighting ranks. The only district in India which can rival this splendid achievement is the adjoining district of Jhelum, and the rivalry between the two is a healthy and a noble one. It is true that in the last three months there has been some falling off in the numbers who have enlisted, and I am confident that I may rely on the district to strain every nerve to regain its place and to maintain its supremacy. The record of the deeds of its sons forms a glorious page in the history of the district. Let me recount one or two. Naik Shahamad Khan, Janjua, Rajput, of Takhti, in the Rawalpindi District, is one of the eight who have won the highest decoration that a soldier can aspire to—the Victoria Cross. Placed in charge of a machine gun section within 150 yards of the enemy's entrenched position he beat off three counter-attacks and worked his gun single-handed after all his men except two belt-fillers had fallen. When after three hours his gun was disabled by hostile fire he and his two companions

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held their ground with rifles until ordered to withdraw, whereupon he brought back his gun, his ammunition and a wounded man unable to walk. Finally, he himself returned and removed practically the whole of the remaining arms and equipment left behind. But for Shahamad Khan's bravery and determination our line must have been penetrated by the enemy.

Take another case. Subedar-Major Farman Ali, I.O.M., Daniai Rajput, of Mohra Fatiman, Rawalpindi, won the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry and ability at Sannaiyat in April last year. When all his British Officers had been killed or dangerously wounded, he kept the men of his companies together under heavy rifle and machine gun fire and when it was clear that the enemy's counter-attack would overwhelm his party, he maintained a rapid fire and withdrew his men, being himself the last to retire. He has been wounded three times in Mesopotamia and in addition to winning the Military Cross he has, for services in other actions during the last two years, been admitted to the Order of British India, received the Indian Distinguished Service Medal and been awarded the Indian Order of Merit. That is a record of heroism which it has been given to few to equal. I have, I fear, no time to do more than recall to your memory the distinctions earned by Subedar Tikka Khan of Karor, Havildar Fazal Hussain of Syed, Naik Ghulab Khan of Maira Shamas, and Sepoys Abdul Karim of Dhok Garwala, Burhan Ali of Khuian and Gheba Khan of Maira Mora among others whose gallant deeds will long form a theme of admiration in the countryside.

I now turn to Attock. Here the military tradition was not so strong as in the Rawalpindi District and at the start the people did not awake to the magnitude of the issues at stake in this war. But leeway was soon made up. The wise guidance and admirable organization of Mr. Butler, Deputy Commissioner, aroused the enthusiasm of the local Maliks and Khans, many of whom have been singled out to-day for recognition by Government and rallied to the colours thousands of the loyal and sturdy clansmen of the district. The Alpials, the Sagri Pathans and the Awans of certain areas were, prior to the outbreak of war, the only clans in the district who had taken regularly to military service. Since we have been involved in the present contest enlistments from Attock have almost trebled, nearly every

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tribe contributing its quota. Since the beginning of the war over 8,000 recruits have been raised from this sparsely populated district and I estimate that one man in every 20 of the total male population is serving in the army at the present time. For this result the Khattak Pathans and the Alpials, who have, respectively, 20 and 30 per cent. of their total male population in the army, and the Awans of Talagang deserve the chief credit. Recently Mr. Butler has called on the district for a special effort, and two companies for the 2nd Battalion of the 54th Sikhs and one company for the 2nd Battalion of the 89th Punjabis have been quickly raised. In this connection I would particularly commend the patriotic spirit of Khan Sahib Malik Muhammad Akbar Khan of Pindigheb in coming forward to lead personally one of the new companies. But while the Punjabi clans in this tract have rallied to their country's call the Pathans of the Chachh, who owe so much of their prosperity to the British Government, have hitherto held aloof. Such apathy in this great crisis is deplorable and if persisted in will cast an indelible reproach on the men of this tract. Are they content to be held up to scorn by their neighbours as too cowardly or too prosperous to stand by their side in defence of their homes? Will they not even at this late hour arise and redeem their good name and their honour? Let them take to heart and endeavour to emulate the examples of their own clansman, the Hon'ble Captain Ajab Khan whose exploits I have already referred to, and of their neighbours Sepoy Khan Zaman of Injra in Pindigheb Tahsil who at Shaikh Sa'ad won the Order of Merit for the splendid courage with which he brought up ammunition, water and supplies for his regiment across a fire-swept zone, or of Subedar Dost Muhammad Khan of Thattah in the same tahsil who won a similar distinction in France when he took command of bombing parties and carried out reconnaissance work by day and night under fire: or Sepoy Feroz Khan who in Mesopotamia also gained this honour by the gallantry and devotion with which he carried out of action a mortally wounded British Officer.

Now let me turn to Mianwali. This district has hitherto been the one dark spot in this Division. Although the Niazi Pathan is a name well known in the annals of the Indian Army yet such moderate military fame as the district has acquired in this war is due almost entirely to the small clan of Bhangi Khel Pathans which, as your Commissioner has

said, has a recruiting record in which any tribe might find pride. But what of the Jats and the Awans of this wide tract? Had Mianwali done its duty like the rest of this Division it would have in the army at the present day not 3,200 men but a total of at least 10,000 and if it sought to vie with Rawalpindi it would have had more than twice that number. As it is, only one man in every 56 of the male population has so far joined the army. There are, however, some indications that the people are awakening to the urgent need for men which the situation demands, and now that special companies of Pathans, Jats and Awans have been sanctioned I have every hope that the requirements of all classes will be met and that within the next 6 or 8 months Mianwali will prove that it is not inferior to its neighbours in active loyalty or in martial spirit. I can hold up to the men of Mianwali for emulation such a gallant exploit as that of Subedar Khawaja Muhammad, Bhangi Khel Pathan of Sanda in Isa Khel, who gained the Order of Merit for conspicuous bravery in January 1916. Let the men of Mianwali set this example before them: let them come forward and bear their fair share of the burden which this mighty conflict has thrown on the shoulders of all who would play a man's part. It is not for us in the Punjab to wait patiently for victory while others fight our battles. We must be true to our traditions, and ourselves seek to be in the forefront of the struggle for right and justice.

So far I have spoken to you of recruiting work and gallantry in the field. But it is not only in these matters that the people of this Division have shown an ardent patriotism. All classes—Muhammadans, Sikhs and Hindus—have subscribed generously to the Aeroplane Fund, to charitable war funds and to the War Loan. In the War Loan Rawalpindi, though it possesses no industries and no large commercial towns, stands sixth on the Provincial list with nearly 19 lakhs to its credit. The people of the Division, Muhammadans, Sikhs and Hindus, have given evidence of their power of organization by establishing, both at the divisional head-quarters and in the districts, successful war leagues whose aims are to co-ordinate all movements in connection with war services, that is, to stimulate recruiting, to provide comforts for soldiers in the field, to assist soldiers in hospitals or on discharge, to entertain soldiers, and to explain the advantages of the war loans. A further development of the Division's charitable activities has been the recent

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establishment of a local branch of the Red Cross Society which has undertaken to manage the local hospitals and supply the Comforts Funds with its needs : and I am pleased to hear that, in response to your Commissioner's appeal, a sum of Rs. 5,000 per month has already been guaranteed. All these objects have been achieved with a gratifying measure of success and I am confident that all will co-operate to promote equally fruitful results for the scheme initiated by Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford and known as " Our Day," the aim of which is to enable the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Associations to carry on their benevolent undertakings till the close of the war. I have given only an incomplete summary of what these districts have done in the past. For the future I am confident that you will make good the Commissioner's assurance to redouble your efforts, and above all to maintain the flow of recruits to the army till the enemies of the King Emperor have been defeated and humbled. The Government on its part is not slow to show suitable recognition of your services. In addition to the honours and rewards, which it is my privilege to bestow to-day, grants of *jagirs*, of lands, of titles and of *khillats* have already been liberally given on the recommendation of your Commissioner and his officers and of the Recruiting Officers ; and though your loyalty has a deeper foundation than the hope of reward you will find in the present, as in the past, that Government is not forgetful of those who serve it and that it is not those who make the loudest demands but those who make the greatest sacrifices whose claims are receiving and will continue to receive the first recognition. The Commissioner has paid a well deserved tribute to the services of the district officers, Mr. Butler and Colonel Barton and their Assistants and of the Recruiting Officers—Majors Mollison and Tancred—who have done so much to promote recruiting in Attock and Rawalpindi. But I think everyone in this Darbar will agree with me that the chief credit for the truly marvellous results already achieved by the Rawalpindi Division is due to your Commissioner whose influence and example have guided and inspired the efforts of officials and non-officials and secured that feeling of mutual confidence and co-operation which is so marked in this Division. The Government and the people have both been fortunate in having him at the head of affairs in this crisis and he has earned the gratitude and recognition of both.

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I hope to meet you once more before I lay down my office. I am confident that I shall then be able to congratulate the districts of Rawalpindi and Attock on having maintained their efforts and to congratulate Mianwali on having recovered the ground lost. I hope also that I shall then be justified in again publicly honouring those who have shown signal self-sacrifice and practical and active loyalty in the final stage of the great struggle, and thereby helped to secure that complete victory which is already in sight and in which it should be our pride and our privilege to participate.

14— Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Jhelum on the 1st November 1917.

DARBARIS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE JHELM, GUJRAT AND SHAHPUR DISTRICTS,—Two days ago it was my privilege to hold a Darbar at Rawalpindi for the districts of Rawalpindi, Attock and Mianwali. The war services of the Rawalpindi Division have, however, been of such magnitude that I felt I could not deal with them adequately in one Darbar. I have to-day the pleasure of meeting the representatives of the three remaining districts of this division and of welcoming General Muspratt, the General Officer Commanding the Jhelum Brigade, and many distinguished military officers, British and Indian, on the active and retired lists. Their presence here indicates how closely we in the Punjab, whether British or Indian, Civil or Military, are bound together in the great enterprise of defending the Empire and bringing the war to a speedy and triumphant conclusion. In the first place let me say how much I regret to learn that in parts of Gujrat and Shahpur the unseasonable rains which fell at the end of September have wrought considerable damage to the homes and harvests of the people and caused a serious epidemic of malaria. In those trials you have the sincere sympathy of Government. Where the loss of crops has been serious Government will be prepared to assist the people by suspension or remission of revenue and by the grant of *takavi*, and to cope with the malaria epidemic Government has sent out into the tracts most severely affected, itinerating dispensaries stocked with a plentiful supply of quinine and other medicines which I trust will alleviate the situation.

Twenty months ago when I held a Darbar here for the Jhelum District I offered the people my hearty congratulations on what they had done and were doing in defence of the Empire. And I added that Government would not be slow to recognise the claims of those who are fighting for it. Gentlemen, I claim that the promise is being steadily fulfilled. As you are aware, Government has already made

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grants of *jagirs* and of land to many of those who have rendered conspicuous services in connection with the war and has placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief 178,000 acres in the Lower Bari Doab Colony to be allotted as rewards to those who have rendered distinguished services in the field. Further evidence that Government fulfills its promises is furnished by the distribution of the honours and rewards which I have made to-day and by the announcement of the new titles which His Excellency the Viceroy has specially authorized me to make on this occasion. Of those honours and rewards Jhelum claims the lion's share because its services have hitherto been the greatest, but you all may rest assured that if you continue to do your duty the future will not be less fruitful than the past in this respect. And here I should like to endorse fully all the commendations which have been bestowed by Colonel Popham Young on the gentlemen whose services he has mentioned by name. As I said at Rawalpindi I attribute the splendid military results which have been achieved in this Division to the cordial co-operation and mutual trust between the people and their leaders and the officers of Government. Nowhere has this harmony of relations been so conspicuous as in the Jhelum District which owes so much to the tact, energy and enthusiasm of its Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Wilson-Johnston, and also to his able assistants, especially Mr. H. P. Anderson, Sub-Divisional Officer of Chakwal. Gentlemen, you, who have borne so large a share of the burden of this war, will be interested to know that the Punjab's contribution to the Indian Army from the 1st August 1914 up to the end of September 1917 has been about 220,000 men, of whom over $\frac{4}{5}$ ths are combatants. This Division's share has been over 70,000, of whom $\frac{5}{8}$ ths are combatants. These figures are eloquent of the part the Division has played in the war and prove that its people have realized that in fighting overseas against our enemies they are also defending their country and their homes from aggression. As I have repeatedly said the outer line of defence for India is Mesopotamia and Baghdad which, thanks to the combined efforts of the British and Indian forces, is now in our hands, was intended by the Germans to be the base of their aggressive designs against the Indian Empire. I will now touch briefly on the war services of the three districts whose representatives are gathered here to-day. It is a real pleasure to me to be in a position again to express the gratitude of Gov.

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ernment to the people of Jhelum on the splendid recruiting results they have achieved since my last visit—results which enable it to share with Rawalpindi the signal distinction of being one of the two foremost districts in India in the sacrifices made for the cause of the King-Emperor. The Commissioner has estimated that 20,000 of Jhelum's sons are serving in the army. I said the other day that Rawalpindi's contribution to the present army might be estimated at nearly 30,000. From the latest figures with which the military authorities have been good enough to furnish me I put Jhelum's contribution at about 27,000. That is to say, that one man in ten of the total male population or one man in every three of military age is at present in the army. Stories of the wonderful enthusiasm for recruiting in the district reach me from all sides. Let me give you some instances :—

Sharaf Khan, Lambardar of Munara, has enlisted six out of his seven sons, one grandson, and three nephews. He is old and almost blind, and for his declining years naturally desired to retain by his side his seventh son. Twice has that son endeavoured to follow his brothers' example and join the colours.

Khudadad Khan, Lambardar of Chak Amra, has enlisted three out of four sons, a grandson and three nephews. He has offered his remaining son, too, to the Recruiting Officer, and he has been rejected only because he is at present too young for service.

Bakhsh Khan, Lambardar of Jhandial Fazullah, has enlisted all three of his adult sons, three nephews and a cousin.

I could add numerous other instances did time allow, but I will content myself with one other instance, this time on the part of a mother. Mussammat Sharfan, a widow, of Murid in Chakwal, has insisted on enlisting all three of her sons since the war began. Her name deserves to be remembered and honoured for such noble self-sacrifice. These are individual cases, but the Deputy Commissioner has told me of the magnificent patriotism of hamlets and villages which have recruited over half of their total male population. The hamlet of Jhalli Moghlan, in the Jhelum Tahsil, has sent 16 out of 21 men to the army : Lehri Kalaran in Pind Dadan Khan, 46 out of 66 : Mohra Khudlahi in Chakwal, 66 out of 154.

There are whole tracts like those of Lehri and Baragiran where more than $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the whole Ghakkar male population have joined up : Nara and Makiala where over $\frac{1}{5}$ th of the Janjua males have been enlisted : of the Awans of the Vanhar $\frac{1}{4}$ th are with the colours. The leading Chakwal tribes—the Mair, Minhas, Khassars, and Kahuts who hitherto have never enlisted—freely have caught the enthusiasm and agreed to form new companies. In Jhelum Tahsil the Gujars have made a start, and even in the remote wilds of the Thal the leading men are coming forward to show worthy example to their brethren. In the village of Dulmial in Pind Dadan Khan there are over 30 Indian officers on the pensioned and active lists, all of whom have won their way to their commissions by their own merits. Last, but not least, I must mention the Awan village of Kandwal in the remote Thal where the enthusiasm of the men for service in the army has been directly inspired by the public demonstration of encouragement from their mothers, wives and sisters, who escorted the recruits in triumph from the village. When the women show such an example, is it any wonder that the district has made an imperishable name for itself in the present war ? When I last addressed you here you had already received back in your midst Jamadar Khudadad Khan of the 129th Baluchis, the first Indian soldier to win the coveted Victoria Cross for his conspicuous gallantry in Belgium in 1914 when he remained working his gun until all the other men of his detachment had been killed. Subedars Jodh Khan, Janjua, Muhammad Azim of Dhariaia, Karam Dad of Wahali and Muhammad Khan of Pind Dadan Khan, Jamadar Sardar Khan of Pind Dadan Khan and Havildar Chanan Shah have all won the Order of Merit by their devotion to duty, conspicuous gallantry and personal skill and courage. Truly we may say of the soldiers of Jhelum that in fighting for their hearths and homes their one desire is to experience —

“ The stern joy, which warriors feel,
In foemen worthy of their steel.”

In addition to the honours and promotion earned by the men of Jhelum at the front the Government, as to-day's Darbar proves, is showing and will continue to show prompt recognition of what you are doing in your homes to assure and maintain the spirit of patriotism and sacrifice. The recognition hitherto shown has necessarily been to individuals,

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but I may mention that recently in consideration of the loyal services of the Jhelum District as a whole I have sanctioned a substantial grant from Government funds towards the construction of a new hospital more worthy of the Jhelum District than the present building, and one that will serve to recall the splendid deeds of Jhelum's sons in the great war. I turn now to Gujrat. I am able to congratulate Gujrat also on the success of its efforts to obtain a high place in the roll of honour. It now stands 6th of the districts of the province. The people of Gujrat have long been known for the adventurous spirit that prompts them to seek service abroad or on the high seas. East or West of Suez: in the London docks or on the quays of Hong Kong you will find the hardy lascar who hails from Gujrat. And you will see, as I have seen, his face light up with pleasure when you speak to him in his own homely Punjabi. It is then no matter for surprise that the attractions of military service appeal to such an enterprising race. At the beginning of the war Gujrat boasted 4,500 men in the Army. Since then, stimulated and encouraged by the energetic Deputy Commissioner, Mr. I. C. Lal, the district has added 12,000 men to the ranks apart from those who have been invalided or died a soldier's death on the field. To-day Gujrat has one man out of every twenty-four of its total manhood and one out of seven of the men of fighting age serving in the army.

Owing to the calamities of floods and malaria, to which I have referred already, the district has in the last few weeks been severely handicapped; but its stout-hearted people are not the men to be daunted by these temporary misfortunes. In a recent report on a tour he made in the Kharian Tahsil the Deputy Commissioner wrote: "The spirit among the Chibs, Awans, Gujars and Jats is excellent, it is not possible to single out individual men for praise as it has become normal for a boy on reaching maturity—if not before—to go off and enlist. A number of the villages in this *ilaga* contain only old men, boys and invalids." In these simple words the Deputy Commissioner has paid an eloquent tribute to the patriotism of the men of the Kharian Tahsil. But the people of Gujrat are not, as in the other districts of this Division, almost entirely Muhammadan in creed: and it is not only the clans named that have played their part in this great conflict. Gujrat contains within its borders the two historic battlefields of Chilianwala and Gujrat whereon the Sikhs proved their valour in that final

contest with the British which has left no rancour but on both sides a sense of mutual appreciation. Upholding the martial traditions of their faith the Sikh Labanas have cheerfully yielded up their manhood in the Empire's cause, and $\frac{1}{8}$ th of Gujrat's soldiers are Labana Sikhs. Here are two fine examples—Arur Singh, Labana, of Bakrala, has enlisted all of his six sons in the army; Bisakha Singh, Labana, of Killa Sura Singh, all his four sons. The Muhammadan clans of Phalia Tahsil had little connection with the army before the war and were slow to come forward. But I am very glad to hear that the separate companies which were allotted to them are being rapidly filled up and bring men of fine physique and stout hearts, I am sure they will soon prove themselves to be brave and enduring soldiers. I look confidently to see Gujrat do even better in the future than it has done in the past: for the need for men is still urgent. The great war is waged with undiminished intensity, and though for the last year we have gone on from victory to victory in Flanders, in France, in Egypt, in Mesopotamia, in East Africa, in fact wherever our far-flung battle line extends, further efforts are needed to complete our triumph.

Lastly, I come to Shahpur, my old district, where I can still claim many personal friends of 30 years' standing. I have for months watched closely the recruiting returns and reports of each district, and I confess I felt some regret that the people of Shahpur, with its martial tribes and great families, should be so slow in responding to the King-Emperor's call. Indeed, Shahpur to some extent lay open to the reproach that the prosperity conferred on it by the extension of the Government canals had sapped its martial spirit. Some of the leaders of the people have set them a worthy example. Major Sir Umar Hayat Khan, Tiwana, whose absence to-day owing to illness we much regret, has served with distinction in France and in Mesopotamia. Captain Muhammad Mumtaz Khan, Tiwana, who is now doing valuable work as Assistant Recruiting Officer, has served in France and gained by his services one of the first nine King's Commissions recently granted to Indian gentlemen. My old friends, Nawab Khuda Bakhsh Khan and Nawab Captain Mabariz Khan, have also, as the Commissioner remarked, nobly maintained the high traditions of the famous Tiwana clan. Others of historic families have done their part and they, too, have to-day been honoured by Government. Yet while the Awans of the Salt Range too have

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nobly responded, in large tracts of Shahpur the call to arms fell for long on deaf ears. But I felt sure that in reality a want of organization lay at the root of the trouble : and since your Commissioner and your Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Gibson, set themselves, with their usual thoroughness and local knowledge, to put matters on a right footing by establishing the territorial system of recruiting, the results I had expected began to appear. The officers and the people and their leaders deserve hearty congratulation on the success of yet another example of united effort. Next to Gujrat, Shahpur has the greatest population of any district in the Division. On the first of January last it returned only 4,229 men as serving in the combatant ranks and auxiliary services of the army. If its efforts had been as vigorous and fruitful as those of Jhelum, it should have had over 27,000 men in service. Instead of being represented at the present time by 8,200 men or one man in every 45 of its total population, it would have sent one man out of every 10 to the front, or nearly 37,000. Shahpur is now working hard to maintain its high military traditions. I was particularly glad to learn that the so-called Bar tribes of Gujrat and Shahpur—the Gondals, Laks and others—have begun to realize that their future *izzat* depends on their readiness to serve the King-Emperor and his Government in the hour of need, and to prove that in loyalty and courage they are not inferior to their neighbours. In the month of September, despite the deplorable ravages of malaria, Shahpur has gained the proud position of being first in the Division, first in the Province and first in all India in the number of recruits supplied. The regimental depôt, which was established in Sargodha by the 124th Baluchis, quickly gathered in 450 recruits and three other regiments are prepared to imitate that gallant regiment's example. The recruits that are called for are required for the period of the war and six months after. To avert, as far as possible, any temporary ill-effects, from an economic or agricultural point of view, of the drain on your young manhood the military authorities have now, at the instance of the Local Government, prohibited the recruitment in this Division of all non-combatants except regimental followers who must obviously be enrolled from the same tracts as those from which the combatants to whom they minister are drawn.

None of these three districts is endowed with great material resources. Agriculture is the staple occupation :

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there are no great industrial or commercial undertakings to be found within their borders : but you have contributed generously according to your means to the various charities and funds connected with the war. War is a great scourge, but like other scourges sent by Providence it offers opportunities to men to show some of the highest human qualities—patriotism, valour and self-sacrifice. Believe me, the services rendered in this war will go down to history and will be treasured for generations in the records of Government and in the traditions of the clans and families who have taken an active part in the great struggle : while the clan, the family or the individuals who could have helped in one form or another but failed to do so will never cease to regret that they stood aloof when opportunities of service and honour presented themselves. As I said last year, the sacrifices of this war are great—the greatest in history—and would bring sadness and mourning to many a home ; but they are more than compensated for by the honour of fighting for a just cause and the glory which will crown a righteous victory. I am confident, therefore, that you will all combine and redouble your efforts to assist the Empire with men and resources until complete victory has under God's mercy crowned our arms.

15—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Jullundur on the 28th January 1918.

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The scenes of the fighting are far from your doors across the seas which our Navy is guarding so effectually that no enemy can appear openly upon them. The war might, therefore, seem to you a remote affair in which you have little concern, but the work for which I have just given rewards shows that there are some among you who realise the justice of the cause and their duty as citizens of the British Empire to assist in bringing the struggle to a victorious conclusion. The spirit which animates ourselves on the one side and the brutal enemy on the other has been recently brought into sharp contrast. When General Allenby entered Jerusalem, having delayed his entry till he could occupy this Holy City without the use of force, his first act was to issue a proclamation to the inhabitants, 'which provided for the carrying on of business as usual, the safeguarding of all religious buildings, and the protection of the inhabitants of all creeds.' He, at the same time, sent this message to the King of the Hedjaz :—'It gives me great pleasure to inform Your Majesty that the Holy Shrines are intact and that Muslim guards are protecting them. The regular custodians have been retained and are carrying on their duties as normally.' Contrast with this magnanimous proclamation the ruthless warning issued recently by the German Commander in Italy, demanding the delivery of all food in the homes of the people whose territory he had occupied, compelling men, women and children to work in the fields every day from four in the morning till eight at night and threatening them with the following barbarous punishments :—'Lazy workmen will be accompanied to their work and watched by Germans, and after the harvest they will be imprisoned for six months and every third day will be given nothing but bread and water; lazy women will be obliged to work and after the harvest will receive six months' imprisonment; lazy children will be punished by

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beating. The Commandant reserves the right to punish lazy women with 20 lashes daily.'

Let us thank God that no enemy will have the chance of speaking to the people of India in such terms. But while we have good grounds for our belief in victory we must all remember that it can only be attained by unremitting labour on our part. Britain has to supply fighting men, munitions, money and ships. About one-half of the men of fighting age are under arms, while more than half of the remainder are engaged on munitions and other services connected with the war.

These men are fighting your battles just as much as our own gallant Punjab soldiers. It is the part of the Punjab mainly to supply the men who are needed for the armies in Mesopotamia, Palestine and Egypt, and on the frontier of India. German East Africa need not be mentioned, for, thanks to the long and arduous campaign in which Punjab troops, including the regiments of Jind and Kapurthala and the Faridkot Sappers, have borne a great and worthy part, it is no longer German. The armies in Mesopotamia and Palestine have gone from victory to victory and one consequence of their steady advance is the growing need of men to hold the large territory now conquered. You may ask why we should increase our responsibilities by steadily advancing into enemy country; why should we not content ourselves with protecting our own land? The answer is simple. It is that for years Germany has aimed at using Asia Minor and Mesopotamia as a base from which to threaten India, and, in order to secure India, to secure the homes of all here present from a pitiless invasion, followed by the slavery that Belgium, Servia, part of Roumania, and a corner of Italy now suffer, we must make sure that Germany and her allies have no starting point from which to launch her armies against India. It is for the defence of your own hearths and homes, as well as in order to right a great wrong and free the world from a constant menace, that you are called upon to provide recruits for the Indian army. Mr. Hallifax has told us what the Jullundur District has done so far in providing recruits and I will briefly review the facts. But, first, I would say how glad I am to welcome here General Peebles and the other military officers, British and Indian, who have come of this Darbar. The medals and honours which so many of them wear should be a stimulus to all young

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men to seek a career of honour in the army which is now so valiantly fighting the battle of freedom and justice in so many parts of the world. The presence of these officers here, side by side with their civil colleagues in the work of recruitment, and the presence of the fine battalion of Sikhs, which has been newly raised within the last few months, largely from this Division, emphasise the existence of that cordial co-operation without which success would be impossible, and I, as head of the civil administration, have great pleasure in acknowledging in particular the unsparing efforts and unfailing tact of the late Divisional Recruiting Officer, Major Lyall.

The census of 1911 showed that there were four-and-a-half lakhs of men in the district, of whom we may take it that 130,000 were of military age, but up to the end of 1917 the total contribution of the district to the army was under 8,000 men, less than one in seventeen, while the Jhelum and Rawalpindi Districts have contributed one in every four of the male population of military age and your neighbours in Ludhiana one in eight. Your district stands eleventh in order of population but only fourteenth in respect of the number of men supplied to the army. In the past year the Ludhiana District, with a male population of military age amounting to only 90,000, has produced 3,907 recruits, while Jullundur, which has 138,000 men of military age, contributed 3,357 only. These figures do not include enlistments direct into regiments. Surely you will not remain content with this position. The district has many martial races. The Sikh Jats, Muhammadan Jats, Rajputs and Pathans are tribes with a long and honourable military history behind them. They form well over a quarter of the total population and they alone could easily provide more than the total number of men which the district has hitherto given to the army.

I am pleased to see that the Arains are speedily establishing their position among the martial races of the district. Since I was last here one of the leaders of that community, Hon. Captain Sardar Bahadur Ghulam Hussain Khan, a distinguished Mutiny veteran, has passed away full of years and honours. It was an Arain, Imam Bakhsh, of Chuoke, in this district, who, disguised as a *fakir*, went at the order of Sir Alfred Lyall from Kabul to Samarkand to find the Amir Abdul Rahman and conduct him to his

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throne in Kabul. He is still alive to tell the tale and to prove that the spirit of adventure is no new thing among his tribe. Another proof of the spirit of the Arains is furnished by the career of Subedar Muhammad Ali, who belongs to village Jandu Singha in the Jullundur Tahsil. After being wounded four times he has retired on pension. He has received the I.O.M., 2nd Class, and was mentioned in despatches. Let us bid him welcome to his well-earned rest at home. In the last four months of 1917, 262 Jats enlisted in the army, 149 Rajputs and 127 Arains. These three tribes alone supplied 538 of the 823 recruits obtained in that period.

And what of the other tribes? None of them, I am told, has yet produced more than 40 men. They cannot say they fear to face the unknown chances of life in foreign lands. But they prefer to trade abroad under the protection of the Flag rather than to share the honours of its advance. Enterprise is there and courage is not wanting. Wherever these qualities are found, there is the stuff of which soldiers are made, and I look to the recruiters of Jullundur to turn it to account.

From your admirable *District Gazette*, I see that up to the end of November last the order of merit of the tahsil was—

Jullundur, with about 3,725 serving with the army.

Nawashahr, with about 1,830 serving with the army.

Nakodar, with about 1,200 serving with the army.

Phillaur, with about 1,050 serving with the army.

The Daruli Zail alone has produced between 500 and 600 men. Next come the Talhan, Kukar Pind, and Jam Sher Zails, with about 300 recruits each. Among the villages, Bara Jagir had pride of place in the beginning of last December, with 11 per cent. of its population in the army, while Bharuli Hardo and Biddi Pind ran it close with 10 per cent. each. I appeal to the Nakodar and Phillaur Tahsils to come into line with the Jullundur Tahsil. In Nakodar there are nine villages which have contributed 5 per cent. or more of their total population; the Jullundur Tahsil had six such villages; Nawashahr five; and Phillaur, alas! none. And yet Phillaur produced the gallant Saran Singh, son of Chaudhri Kishen Singh, Zaildar of Jandiala, who left his

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land in Australia to join the Commonwealth forces. He went with his regiment to the front and finally met glorious death, fighting side by side with his Australian comrades in arms.

You have heard of the recent home-coming of the Kapurthala Imperial Service Troops after $3\frac{1}{4}$ years' meritorious service in the deadly climate of German East Africa. Mr. Hallifax, your Commissioner, conveyed to them my congratulations on their having helped to bring the campaign to a victorious conclusion by the complete conquest of German East Africa. I am sure that the hearty welcome they received from His Highness the Maharaja and his people must have brought home to all the honour and glory that await the soldier who has fought well in a worthy cause. I welcome the presence here to-day of His Highness' son, Kanwar Amarjit Singh, and the officials of the Kapurthala Darbar who have accepted the Commissioner's invitation to attend. I have just had the pleasure of presenting a sword of honour for services in recruiting to Sirdar Kishen Singh of Ranipur, who is one of His Highness' subjects, and I would take this opportunity of acknowledging the valuable help which the Darbar is giving us in supplying men to the Indian Army while at the same time maintaining a fine body of Imperial Service Troops for the service of the King-Emperor. The population of the Kapurthala State is only one-third of that of the Jullundur District. In the year that has closed they provided 1,407 recruits for the Indian Army, apart from large calls for the Imperial Service Troops. In November Kapurthala gave 330 recruits, while in December it topped the list for the Jullundur recruiting division and stood first among the Native States of the province with 385 recruits.

Turn now from this splendid record to what your own district has done. Recruitment from Jullundur has steadily declined. In December you only managed to raise 172 men. What are you going to do to remedy that? If the raises, zaildars and lambardars produce their own sons at the recruiting office there will be no doubt about the others following. Any man who brings in 100 recruits within two months will be given the rank of jamadar, and, if the district raises 250 men for any particular regiment, the Deputy Commissioner is given one nomination to a jamadari, and to four posts of non-commissioned officers in that

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regiment. Government is not slow to reward. You have seen to-day what there is in store for the successful recruiter—titles, *khillats*, *sanads* and grants of land—and if the response to my present appeal is what it ought to be, I can assure you that these rewards will not be the last. I have still one other announcement to make. When I was in Delhi last week I obtained the sanction of the Supreme Government to announce at this Darbar that Commissions as temporary Honorary Second-Lieutenants in the Indian Land Forces of His Majesty are being conferred on Sardar Jasjit Singh, Ahluwalia, and Sardar Bahadur Sardar Rajindar Singh of Pakhoke. They represent families of high martial traditions and proved loyalty. I congratulate them both on the distinctions thus conferred on them.

The war is now in its last stage. Men are wanted to complete our victory. They are asked to serve only for the term of the war and six months afterwards. Those who wish can then return to their ordinary avocations, but those who come forward in this crisis, their descendants can always point with pride to the fact that they played a man's part on the right side in the decision of the greatest issues with which the human race has ever been faced.

15—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Hoshiarpur on the 31st January 1918.

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Three days ago in Jullundur I explained why it is that Government is calling upon you to help in recruiting. To-day I would only remind you that we are fighting a ruthless race whose ambition it is to dominate the world and who have no scruples as to the means they employ, or the misery they cause, in attempting to secure that domination. The eyes of the world were first opened as to the brutality of the German Government when they deliberately set out to exterminate the Hereros, a race under their rule in German South-West Africa, which had been goaded by oppression into rebellion. That colony, like all their colonies, has now been freed from their tyranny, and the troops that freed it were composed mainly of South Africans, who were our opponents in war only 15 years ago but have so clearly recognised that the British Empire, to which they now belong, is based on justice, that they have of their own free will undertaken the burden of the campaign in German South-West Africa and have shared it with British and Indian troops in East Africa. In this they were following the example of the Sikhs, who, after struggle with the British 70 years ago, which left no rancour but mutual respect, nine years later proved themselves to be our most loyal supporters in repressing the Mutiny in Hindustan. Compare this with the German attitude towards the unfortunate people who has fallen under their sway. So harsh was the treatment meted out by the Germans to their late subjects in South-West Africa that when the German settlers surrendered to the British forces they begged permission to keep their arms in fear of the wrath of the people whom they had oppressed. In East Africa, too, you will remember that our troops captured official documents which proved that the German Government had been scheming to divorce their Muhammadan subjects from their religion, and they only succeeded in attaching one or two of the fighting tribes to their cause by permitting them grossly to oppress

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all the others. It was with their consent, if not at their instigation, that six lakhs of Armenians were butchered by their Turkish allies in cold blood. Their brutalities in Belgium, Serbia, Roumania, Italy, and on the high seas are well known to you all, and I recall them only to help you to realise that it is in a war against oppression and brutality that the Empire calls on you to play your part. Mesopotamia and Asia Minor have long been the scene of German intrigue which was directed against India, and every soldier that your district supplies to the Indian Army helps to keep the threat of German savagery away from your doors.

Let us now consider whether Hoshiarpur has done, and is doing, its part. The district in the past has had a splendid military record, and in the beginning of 1915 Hoshiarpur stood fifth among the districts of the Punjab and of India in the number of combatants in the army, which was 5,901. The four districts then above it were Rawalpindi, Jhelum, Rohtak and Amritsar. It now stands seventh only, having given place to Gujrat and Gurgaon. Between 1st August 1914 and the end of 1916 the district sent 4,424 recruits to the army. In 1917 its contribution has been 3,936, so that there has been a steady improvement in the rate of recruitment. At the beginning of 1918 there were, after making some allowance for casualties, approximately 12,226 men of this district in the army. This means that 1 man in every 13 of those who were of military age is serving as a soldier. This proportion is better than the Jullundur figure of 1 in 18 : it is the same as the Kangra figure, but it cannot compare with Ludhiana's 1 in 8. In population Hoshiarpur stands fifth in the province : in its military contribution it now stands seventh only. You surely are not going to rest content till you have at least regained a position worthy of your population and your past traditions. The district contains two well-known martial races, the Jat Sikhs and the Hindu Rajputs. The former contribute more than 50 per cent. of the recruits, the latter over 25 per cent. Of the Sikhs about 1 in every 6 of the total male population is in the army and of the Hindu Rajputs 1 in 9. The Hindu Rajputs have done well and the Sikhs have done splendidly, but I am confident that both will do better. I have not been able to get figures by tribes for the period before September 1917, but in the last four months of that year out of a total of 949 recruits 206, or over-one-fifth,

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were Jat Sikhs ; Musalman Rajputs contributed 109 and Hindu Rajputs 110, or about one-ninth each of the total ; Ramdasias and Arains about 70 each ; Sainis 57 and Gujars 40. These figures, however, do not include enlistments made direct into regiments. The Mahtons have done very well in proportion to their numbers both here and in Jullundur. I am glad to see that Musalman Rajputs are now awakening to their duty but the Gujars and Brahmins, who form a large proportion of your population, are still hanging back. The Brahmins of the Una Tahsil are offered an unique opportunity of establishing their *izzat* for ever, as a company has been set apart for them in the historic Guides Regiment, than which there is none with a more gallant record in the Indian Army. I hope that they will take it, and that without delay. Remember that he gives double who gives quickly, and that saying is particularly applicable in the case of recruits. The Gaur Brahmans of the Ambala Division have already made a name for themselves by flocking in thousands to the army since this war began. Are the Saraswat Brahmans of the Doaba to show themselves faint-hearted and unwilling at a time when they are called upon to maintain the cause of *Dharm* ?

I come now to the Gujars. In physique the Gujars compare favourably with any race. What is wrong with their spirit that they will not take to a soldier's career ? The Hindu Gujars of the Ambala Division are coming forward almost as freely as the Jats and Ahirs. The Muhammadan Gujars of Gujrat have shown themselves to be in the first rank of the martial tribes of the Pindi Division, and the Deputy Commissioner lately wrote that there was hardly a single man of fighting age in the villages. All had gone to the army. Compare that with the Gujars of Hoshiarpur and their contribution of 10 men a month out of a male population of 43,000. The Sainis, too, though they have made a beginning, are not yet doing their proper share. There are 20,000 males of the tribes in the district, but they produce only 15 recruits a month. The Arains have done slightly better. Their brothers in Jullundur provided 127 men against 68 from Hoshiarpur in the last four months. But what are we to think of the Giraths or Changs, of whom there are 26,000 men of that tribe, but only from one zail have they enlisted under the personal influence of Chaudhri Dhani Ram, whose services Government recognised last year by the grant of a *jagir* ? Other zaildars who have

done well are Rai Sahib Mul Chand of Janauri and Sirdar Ram Narain Singh of Mahilpur, who have not only helped regimental recruiters but have continuously furnished recruits themselves. Your Deputy Commissioner tells me that as a whole the zaildars of the district are doing very useful work. Sufedposhes, however, are not doing all they should, and they must now make an effort to justify their position. Slackness cannot be tolerated at a time like this.

I would not have you think that the past efforts of this district are not appreciated. I am glad to recognise the loyal response which the Sikhs and the Hindu Rajputs have made to the call for men. But, as the Commissioner has shown, these two classes alone are bearing a burden which all should share, and at the hospital entertainment which the generosity of one of your citizens, Lala Dogar Mal, Sud, provided two days ago for over 300 wounded and pensioned men, it was remarkable how few there were, besides Sikhs and Rajputs, who had given proof of their gallantry in the field. Here are a few instances from Dogra Rajput villages. Badsali has given 109 men out of 119 of military age, Chalola 24 out of 27, Dulehr 90 out of 110, and Chawar 12 out of 16. These have all given practically every available man. The Jat Sikh villages, Moranwali, Khanpur, Dial, Chabewal, Ambala and Tanaoli, have given nearly 1 in every 2 of their men of military age. So have the Mahtons of Bham, the Sainis of Paldi, and the Muhammadan Jats of Pandori Khurd. Many families, too, can show a proud record. Khyal Singh, Rajput of Chawar, has given all 4 sons to the service of the King-Emperor. The family of Subedar Gopala, Rajput of Nangal Guzar, has 12 out of 14 males in the army; Banka, Rajput, Lambardar of Saloh, 12 out of 30; Bishambar, Rajput of Badsali, 13 out of 28; Bakhtawar Singh, Rajput pensioner of Nangal Jarialan, 5 out of 6; Praga, another Rajput Lambardar of Hambowal, 6 out of 8; and Suchet Singh, a retired Rajput Subedar of Sapor, 4 out of 7. All these families, mark you, are Hindu Rajputs. Does not their record stir the emulation of other tribes? How well those men, Sikhs and Rajputs, have fought, was shown us in yesterday's gathering. They were proud of their wounds, and each of those who were badly maimed was eager to "shoulder his crutch and show how fields were won."

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The war records of the Sikh and Dogra regiments, the 15th, 35th, 47th and 51st Sikh Regiments, the 37th, 38th and 41st Dogras, and the 29th, 69th and 89th Punjabis, to mention only a few, show many instances of the gallantry displayed by the men of Hoshiarpur in East Africa, the Dardanelles, France and Mesopotamia. I will quote to you a few cases only which have been supplied by the military authorities. As their example is inspiring you will doubtless be glad to hear brief details of their courageous acts :—

Subedar Labh Singh, village Jaugniwala, Tahsil Garhshankar, was awarded the Indian Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in Mesopotamia. When the attacking troops on the front of his position were wavering he left his trench under heavy fire and, fearlessly exposing himself, rallied them, led them back to the captured enemy trench, and consolidated the position.

No. 1775 Sepoy Dalip Singh, village Kakuwal, Tahsil Garhshankar, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for marked gallantry in Mesopotamia. He displayed great coolness in collecting ammunition from the wounded near him and continued firing at the enemy. When his ammunition gave out he dug a temporary shelter for an officer lying wounded near by, dangerously exposing himself whilst doing so.

No. 2762 Kot-Dafadar Lal Singh, village Chitarah, Tahsil Una, was awarded the Indian Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry at Kut-el-Amara. When in command of his troop in front of the Turkish position on the right bank of the Tigris under heavy enfilade fire he covered the retirement of the remainder of his squadron and successfully withdrew his troop.

No. 536 Naik Sundar Singh, village Kathe, Tahsil Hoshiarpur, was awarded the Indian Order of Merit for conspicuous bravery at Gurmah Safhah, Mesopotamia, on July 5th, 1915, in making repeated attempts to bring some maxim guns out of action under heavy fire at a distance of only 50 yards from the enemy after all the guns had been put out of action. He was killed in the attempt, but every true Sikh would be proud of such a death.

No. 709 Lance Naik Ghajja Singh, village Marule, Tahsil Hoshiarpur, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for conspicuous gallantry at Khafa Jiyah, Mesopotamia, on May 15th, 1915, in courageously swimming

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the Karkheh river, a rapid stream 150 yards wide, in face of a heavy fire from the enemy on the opposite bank.

No. 845 Sepoy Bawa Singh, village Moranwali, Tahsil Garhshankar, was awarded the Indian Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry in Mesopotamia in 1917. When his company had occupied a captured trench ammunition ran short and more was urgently required to repel a counter-attack. Sepoy Bawa Singh voluntarily left the trench and collected ammunition from the dead and wounded who were lying in the open. This was carried out under heavy shell and machine gun fire.

No. 2870 Sowar Dalip Singh, village Thakkarwali, Tahsil Garhshankar, has recently been awarded the Indian Order of Merit in France for conspicuous gallantry in action. He was one of a patrol of one British officer and six Indian soldiers sent forward to reconnoitre the enemy's wire. The patrol came under heavy machine gun fire at close range, and two of the men fell wounded in full view of the enemy. Realising the situation and acting on his own initiative Dalip Singh carried both the wounded men back under heavy machine gun fire and placed them under cover.

No. 2832 Lance-Naik Arjun Singh, village Daphar, Tahsil Hoshiarpur, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for great gallantry when taking part in a raid by night on the enemy's position across a river in Mesopotamia in 1917. He was severely wounded when attempting to wade ashore and capture an enemy's machine gun. On two previous occasions he volunteered to swim the river and reconnoitre the enemy's bank.

No. 2102 Sepoy Rup Singh, village Dadoh, Tahsil Una, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for great gallantry in action in Mesopotamia in 1917.

No. 3067 Dafadar Sant Singh, village Bhadsali, Tahsil Una, has recently been awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry in France. He was in charge of a telephone in action under heavy shell and trench mortar fire. The trench was blown in on top of him and the telephone. He then moved the telephone further down the trench. The trench was again blown in, the telephone buried, and he himself severely wounded. He endeavoured to keep communication to the last.

Hoshiarpur Darbar

Noble deeds like these deserve to be commemorated in the district "roll of honour" and to be told throughout the district to inspire young men with the love of honour. The first names on that roll should be those of the distinguished Mutiny veterans, among them Subadar Kahan Singh, Rajput of Dharmgal, Una Tahsil, whose presence here to-day we all welcome as an indication of the loyal services rendered by the men of Hoshiarpur in the dark days of the Mutiny and as a proof of the consideration shown by Government to those who have loyally served it. But it is not only honour that a military career now brings. Government fully recognises that the men whom it calls to the colours have to think not only of the service of their King and country, but also of the maintenance of themselves and their families. Hence, since the war began it has steadily improved the pay and pension of the soldier, and the material advantages of the army are now great. You have had eloquent testimony of this from the Indian officers who addressed you to-day. A bonus of Rs. 50 is given to each combatant recruit, Rs. 10 on enrolment and the remaining Rs. 40 immediately he is passed by the medical officer of his regiment. Once he joins the colours he receives clothing free, in addition to his pay. He can, if he wishes, save practically all his pay, and the Indian officers here present show you to what honour and comfort he can rise. I am told that in Rawalpindi and Jhelum the remittances sent home by men with the colours amount in each case to over 20 lakhs per annum, or more than double the land revenue of those districts. In talking to brave men it would perhaps be an insult to refer to the risk of a soldier's life, and all I will say is that the dangers of military service, even during a war, are in these days little more than those of civil life. The explanation is that the soldier is well fed, well clad and well looked after because his life is valuable. Epidemic disease, such as plague or cholera, is not allowed to approach the lines in which he lives. If wounded or invalided his future maintenance is secured by a pension for life, and if he gives up his life for his King and country his family is provided for. The soldier's life is thus not without material compensation. Of the honour and glory that every soldier may win I have already spoken. All do not have the same opportunities, and there is many a hero who does not win a hero's crown. But whoever plays a man's part in this mighty struggle knows that he will leave behind

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him in his family a memory that they will prize as the most precious of heirlooms for all the generations that are to come. And to those who cannot take part in the actual struggle I would say :—" Strain every nerve to obtain recruits—to keep the fighting line unbroken. To-day's Darbar is proof that Government will not forget your services. Let it mark the beginning of a new effort which will bring you new rewards, and which will not be relaxed till it has carried us on to final victory."

17—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Gurdaspur on the 2nd February 1918.

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I now turn to the main object for which I have come here to-day. As you are well aware for the last $1\frac{3}{4}$ years victory has steadily followed the British Flag in every theatre of War—France, Belgium, Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia and East Africa. But the failure of some of our Allies has thrown a heavier responsibility on the British Empire, which now has 50 lakhs of men in the field and 5 lakhs in the fleet that holds the seas. We are now at the extreme crisis of the war, when we must exert our strength to the utmost if we are to achieve a speedy victory and a lasting peace. The part that India, and specially our own Punjab, has played, and is playing, in this tremendous conflict is patent to the world. This district too has not been behind hand, but what I want you to ask yourselves is whether you are doing all you can and all you should to further the great purpose. Let us look at the recruiting returns. There are 144,000 men of military age in the district. On the 1st of January 1918 Gurdaspur had 8,776 men in the Indian Army, or 1 in every 16. The number is double what it was a year ago, and I gratefully acknowledge the efforts of all who have helped to produce that result. But are you aware that in Jhelum and Rawalpindi 1 young man in every 4 is in the army, in Rohtak and Attock 1 in every 7, in Ludhiana and Gujrat 1 in 8, while in your next door neighbour Amritsar, as in Gurgaon, the number is 1 in every 10. Gurdaspur is eighth in population, but only twelfth in respect of the number of soldiers contributed to the army. What you can do was shown in August last when the district provided 691 men, but in September the number dropped to 324 ; in October it was 328 ; in November 310 ; and though in December it rose to 377, eleven districts surpassed that number. I am aware that the heavy rains, which caused so much fever and delayed agricultural operations, were mainly responsible for the falling off. But the unfavourable conditions have now happily passed away, and I look with confidence to you to retrieve your position

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in the coming months. Some may ask why they should take a hand in this war, which is being waged so far from their doors. My answer is this—you are concerned in this war as citizens of the British Empire which drew the sword, in the first instance, on behalf of Belgium whose freedom not only Britain but also Germany had sworn to protect. The sword cannot be sheathed till we have righted the wrong done to Belgium and other small nations and secured a real guarantee that treaties shall be respected, that right shall rule against might among the nations, and that the world shall be freed from the constant threat of German aggression. But it is not merely as citizens of the Empire that you are concerned. India has an immediate interest in the overthrow of Germany and her Allies, as great an interest as Belgium, or Serbia or Roumania, although, thanks to the prowess of our armies in Mesopotamia and Palestine and to the power of the Navy, the threat has been kept far from your doors.

That this is no empty warning is proved by the words of the German Emperor which have recently been published by a German journalist, words spoken—mark you—not in the heat of conflict, but nearly two years before the war, when he was nominally our friend :—

“ We (that is, we Germans) shall not merely occupy India. We shall conquer it ; and the vast revenues which the British allow to be taken by Indian Princes will after our conquest flow in a golden stream to the Fatherland.”

If the Indian Princes were thus to be robbed, what would be the fate of the Indian people ? Need I say more ? Recall the massacres of the Hereros in South-West Africa, the cruelties perpetrated on all Germany's subject races, the insult offered to the Indian Army by the German General in China in presence of Maharaja General Sir Partab Singh, and you will understand what the Kaiser means by “ conquest ” and what would be your fate if the Germans came to India.

Gentlemen, you whom I address are mostly educated men to whom much of what I have said must be familiar. It is on you I rely to bring this position home to the public and stir them up to a sense of their duty to their sovereign whom they are bound to honour and obey, and to their country which it is their first duty to protect. The people of the Punjab have never failed to respond to such an appeal, and people of Gurdaspur are second to none in loyal and martial

Gurdaspur Darbar

traditions. If you Raises, Sirdars, Zaildars and Sufedposhes enlist your own sons, as many I am glad to hear are doing, the others will follow. If they still hang back, speak to them of duty and *dharm*, of the obligation in every sacred book, the Quran, the Granth Sahib, the Shastras and the Bible, to fight for their King in a worthy cause. If they plead the strangeness of the military life tell them that they will be among their own comrades and will make new friends. If they are in doubt about the terms of service, tell them of the generous bonus on enlistment, the free food and clothing, and the excellent pay almost every anna of which they can save, of the pensions for themselves and their families, of the promotion and honours that await loyal service as exemplified by the scores of retired Indian Officers whose uniforms and decorations add splendour to this Darbar and point to the soldiers of Jhelum and Rawalpindi who are sending home 40 lakhs of rupees in a year. There will be others whose imagination you can fire by telling them of the brave deeds done by men of their own clan or district. To such you can repeat tales of exploits such as these :—

No. 822 Bugle-Major Surain Singh, village Muridke, Tahsil Batala, was awarded the Indian Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry during the action at Saihan, Mesopotamia, on the 13th Novr. 1914, in going forward in the face of heavy fire and setting fire to a building held by the enemy.

No. 1576 Lance-Naik Bachitar, village Paltui, Tahsil Shakargarh, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal, for gallantry in action in Mesopotamia in 1917. When his Lewis gun was put out of action by a shell, he joined a bombing party and bombed the enemy's communication trench. When the supply of bombs was running short he went back on several occasions under intense fire and brought up more bombs to the bombing party.

No. 1429 Naik Bhagat Singh, village Guniya, Tahsil Batala, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry in Mesopotamia in 1917. He was in an observation post in the front line and volunteered to go forward during daylight to discover if the enemy's line was still held. He found it deserted and pushed forward to the second line and found that also evacuated. The information gained was of the greatest military value.

No. 2240 Havildar Dal Singh, village Manian, Tahsil Batala, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal

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for gallantry in Mesopotamia in 1916. When all British and Indian Officers had been killed or wounded, he rallied the remnants of his double company and maintained the fight until finally ordered to withdraw under cover of darkness.

No. 4439 Sepoy Atma Singh, village Baholewali, Tahsil Batala, was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry in Mesopotamia in 1916. He volunteered to take an important message under heavy fire although he had just seen a man wounded in attempting to do so. He himself was badly wounded in getting the message through.

These men are all Sikhs and Rajputs—races that have never been backward in giving their lives for the *Sarkar*. Though a minority in the district, they have supplied the bulk of your soldiers. But I look to them to make even greater efforts, and I am confident that stimulated by the example of such men as Rasaldar Gopal Singh of Bhagowal, who is doing such splendid work as Honorary Assistant Recruiting Officer, of Chaudhri Mehr Singh and Chaudhri Kesar Singh, Rajput, who have both received Swords of Honour to-day, and of others whom Mr. King has mentioned, they will do so. At the same time I appeal to the other tribes to seize an opportunity which will never recur to do *khidmat* and thereby raise their *izzat*. History will show that service in this war is not a burden to be avoided but an honour to be sought, and I believe this is already being realised.

I am glad to hear that the Samis have furnished a Double Company for the 21st Punjabis, and it has been a great pleasure to me to present a Sword of Honour to L. Dewan Chand who has been mainly responsible for this result; but this tribe has not come forward as was hoped for in the last four months, and I trust that their effort has not been spent. Among the Musalmans, the Jats, Kakezais, Arains and Rajputs have done fairly well though they are much behind the Sikhs and Hindu Rajputs, while the other tribes of the district, Hindu and Muhammadan, have so far done little. They are letting others defend their honour and reap the rewards which they might have won and which are not even now altogether beyond their grasp. The Military authorities are ready to do all that is possible to make things easy for you by establishing special companies for various tribes. A special Company of Muhammadans is being raised for the 72nd, a special Company of Sikhs for the 76th, and even the Gujars, who have hitherto been so shy of military service

in these districts, though their brethren in Gujrat and the South-Eastern Punjab have come forward in thousands, will I hope also be offered a special Company if they will provide the men. Will they let it be said that the Gurdaspur Gujars have big bodies but small hearts?

I was glad to hear from Mr. King that so many Raises, Zaildars, Sardars and others have rendered valuable assistance. It was a great pleasure to me to show in the Gujranwala Darbar last August and also to-day that Government is not slow to reward such services by the grant of titles, *khillats*, *sanads* and land. The zail which has produced most recruits is the Sirhe Zail, the number enlisted being 294. The Zaildar, Achchar Singh, deserves to be congratulated, and to-day he has not only received a *sanad* and *khillat* but also a grant of two squares of land. Only seven zails have so far produced as many as 200 recruits each; they are all in the Batela Tahsil, which has the advantage of a long standing connection with the army, but I hope soon to hear that other zails in other tahsils have done equally well.

The Commissioner has selected for special mention Hakim Singh, Lambardar of Bhanri, Puran Singh of Dheriwala and Subedar Nabi Bakhsh, who have so many near relations serving in the army. All honour to these families who have shown the spirit of self-sacrifice and patriotism which is never wanting in the Punjab when the need arises.

When a district "Roll of Honour" is prepared the name of Subedar Nabi Bakhsh should be given first place, for not only is he a mutiny veteran—one of the few now left—but he has given further proof that he has eaten the salt of the *Sarkar* by giving three of his four sons to the army. His example should stimulate all, but specially his Muhammadan brethren.

I would once more appeal to you, Gentlemen, assembled here, and through you to those whom you represent. Many of you have already bestirred yourselves as to-day's list of awards shows, but very much more can and should be done, and your own Hindi proverb—*turat dan mahan pun*—tells you that it should be done quickly. On you will the main responsibility rest if the people fail to respond to the call, to you will be the honour and credit if Gurdaspur does its duty.

It only remains for me to join in your hope that within the next year, with God's blessing, we may attain that peace with victory which we all pray for.

**18—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Multan on the
16th February 1918.**

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The Commissioner has claimed that the districts of the Division in proportion to their means are second to none in supporting the War Loan and all War charities. I gladly recognise the justice of this claim. The five districts represented here to-day have invested 57 lakhs in the War Loan, Lyallpur being second in the Province with 35 lakhs. They have also subscribed 7 lakhs to various War and Relief Funds ; the contribution of nearly 2½ lakhs to the " Our Day " Fund was particularly generous, and I am glad of the opportunity of acknowledging their patriotism and public spirit. And now I appeal to you to display the same qualities of patriotism and public spirit in another and even more important sphere. As you are aware the main object of my visit here to-day is to stimulate your energies in the matter of recruitment. A little over a year ago at a Darbar held at Montgomery I pointed out that while the rest of the Province was covering itself with glory by its splendid response to the call of the King-Emperor, the Multan Division alone was standing out. To give you an opportunity of proving your manhood and loyalty I then announced that as a beginning your Commissioner was being asked to raise a battalion from the South-West Punjab. The Commissioner has told us that half a battalion was raised by August of last year, and I have just had the pleasure of inspecting a Guard of Honour from the regiment in which it is embodied, the 2-56th Rifles. I congratulate Colonel Ames and the officers of the regiment on the soldierly bearing and the fine physique of the men. The battalion has been raised in Multan, and Colonel Ames and you and I look to it to maintain the traditions of the Punjab Frontier Force to which it belongs as well as of the Multan Division which it now represents. But the Division has supplied little more than half a battalion even now, and for the last three months of 1917 the numbers have showed little increase. Men are

coming in only by hundreds where we had every reason to expect thousands. What little has been achieved has been due in the main to the energy of Colonel Powney Thompson who has been assisted by Khan Bahadur Muhammad Zafar Khan and also by Khan Sahib Makhdum Sayad Sher Shah. I tender them my hearty thanks. I trust that it will not be long before the battalion is completed, and ready to take the field. To do that it is necessary that every man should fit himself by training and discipline to maintain the credit of his tribe, his district and his regiment. Colonel Ames' task is a very difficult one; it has been rendered more difficult by occasional desertions. Desertions will cease if public opinion will brand the deserter as a traitor to his King and a disgrace to his class. That is what he is, and our object in raising this battalion will not be fulfilled unless every man who joins it realises that once he dons the uniform and eats the salt of the *Sarkar*, he must be true to that salt and fit himself as quickly as possible to fight the battles of his King and country. And now let me give you some figures to show what your division as a whole is doing. You have 643,000 men of fighting age, more than any Division except Lahore. On the 1st January 1915, shortly after the war broke out, there were only 463 combatants in the Indian Army. At the beginning of 1916, the total number, combatants and non-combatants, came to only 856; on 1st January 1917 it was 2,898 and at the beginning of the present year it was only 5,734. Of these 2,790 belonged to Lyallpur. The remaining five districts had supplied between them only 1,500 combatants and about the same number of non-combatants, chiefly Sarwans. Compare your few thousands with the 83,000 furnished by the Pindi Division, the 49,000 furnished by Ambala, the 48,000 from Jullundur, and the 42,000 from Lahore. I am sure that no loyal and self-respecting man of this Division can contemplate those figures without some feeling of shame, but I trust that the feeling of shame will give way to a determination to wipe off the stain, while there is still time. I am glad to learn that a good beginning has been made in the present year—in January the number of recruits for the Division was 359; in the first half of February it has been 376; and I can see no reason why, if all realize their responsibilities, you should not quadruple the present numbers during the year 1918. Your neighbours in Bahawalpur began active recruiting only two months ago, and though the population of the State is less

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than that of the Multan District, in January they raised 341 recruits, or as many as your whole Division. Surely the men of Multan will not let it be said that Bahawalpur has surpassed them in active loyalty and courage. I am appealing to you to give proof of those qualities not so much in the interest of Government as in the interest of your own good name. The thousands of men you may be able to supply will not turn the scale in this war of millions, but I do not want it to be said hereafter that any part of the Punjab shirked its duty in this crisis and therefore before I lay down my office 14 months hence I hope to see a total of at least 15,000 men upholding the honour and credit of the Multan Division in the army. This is a very modest demand. The Rawalpindi Division, with a male population 15 per cent. less than yours, had 83,000 men in the army on the 1st January of this year and gave no less than 25,000 men in the past year. You should have no difficulty in finding at least 15,000 men by the end of the present year. The districts of Rawalpindi and Jhelum have already given one man in four of fighting age: is it too much to ask you to give less than one man in forty? Since the war broke out the Punjabi Muhammadans, who form about one-thirtieth of the population of India, have supplied nearly a fifth of the total number of recruits. Are the men of the South-West Punjab to go on leaving it to their brothers in the Rawalpindi, Lahore and Jullundur Divisions to achieve this proud position, while they themselves sit idle at home. And now I will say a few words about the different districts. Lyallpur has furnished half the fighting men enlisted from this Division, but those men are almost entirely colonists from other Divisions, not South-Western Punjabis. The original inhabitants of the district, however, have kept the four Grantee Camel Corps up to strength and have produced some 1,800 Sarwans, but I am sorry to hear that even in this respect the Kharrals, in spite of their good physique and pride of race, have remained aloof and proved themselves in Lyallpur as in Montgomery and Jhang useless to the *Sarkar* in time of need. Let them now wipe out the blot on their name and show themselves the manly race which they claim to be. The only class in Lyallpur that has done well is the Indian Christians whose battalion I had the pleasure of inspecting at Ferozepore last August. Most of those men were formerly humble menials, the servants of the zamindars, but they have realised that *khidmat* brings *izzat* and they can now

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hold up their heads for they have shown that they are men.

Next to Lyallpur comes Montgomery with a total contribution of 1,014 on 1st January, but of these only 346 were in the combatant ranks. No tribe has done well, but the Bhattis can at least claim to top the list in the number of recruits supplied. The Kathias, like the Kharrals, have deliberately stood aloof, and I would remind them that their honourable position in the district must be justified by proof of active loyalty.

There are redeeming incidents which encourage me to hope that the people of Montgomery may still prove that they have the right spirit in them. One such case is that of the Arain family of Burj Jewe Khan, the head of which Chiragh Din has sent 6 of his relations to the 2-56th Rifles. Another is that of the Maneke Wattus who were the first zamindars of the district to enlist.

After Montgomery comes Multan with 759 men in the army, of whom only 230 are combatants. These have nearly all been raised in the last year and belong mainly to the 2-56th Rifles. Multan has at present the unenviable distinction of supplying fewer men to the combatant ranks than any other district in the Punjab. I know that the *Raises* and people of Multan have never been lacking in loyalty, but unfortunately they are for various reasons slow to express it in the form of military service, and I regret that the inertia and—I hesitate to pronounce the word—the timidity of the people have not yet been overcome. Timidity! The Multanis of 70 years ago who fought under Edwardes and those who 9 years later rallied to the side of Government in the Mutiny, would turn in their graves at a charge of timidity. Will their grandsons by their inactivity in this crisis admit the charge? Surely not. I know the *Raises* of Multan. I can claim among them many personal friends. I know that though slow to move their spirit is willing and their hearts are loyal, and I believe that all that is required is that their influence and efforts should be properly organized and directed. That I am glad to think is now being done. Mr. Dunnett, your Deputy Commissioner, before coming here initiated recruiting operations in Hissar with the result that in December the Hissar District broke the recruiting record for all India by furnishing over 1,800 recruits. He has now put his hand to the task of organiz-

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ing the Multan District and already the returns of enlistments for January exceed those of any previous month, while February promises to be even better.

Muzaffargarh with only 387 men and Jhang with 366 bring up the rear of the districts represented to-day in Darbar and also of the Province. In Jhang the people who have done best are the Akla Hayats and Nur Mahrams, tribes who have in the past had a bad name for preying on their neighbours, but who have now seized the opportunity of winning a good name and of putting their neighbours to shame. The Sanghas of Jhang have also done well in giving 50 per cent. of their men of recruitable age.

- The Commissioner has explained the reasons why the Division has so far held back—the absence of any recent military traditions and of military connections, prejudice against leaving home, and the fact that there is ample land to absorb your energies. Similar difficulties have occurred elsewhere, and they have been overcome, as I hope they will be overcome here. I would remind you that 25 years ago the Muhammadans of the Northern Punjab were but poorly represented in the Indian Army. They might have put forward the same excuse you put forward to-day (*Fauji mulazimat ki adat nahin*). At the present time they are the strongest element in the Indian Army, of which they furnish over a fifth. The Muhammadans of these parts surely have not forgotten the stirring times in which their grandfathers lived when the Pathans and the Sikhs kept great armies at Multan and when Cureton's famous regiment of Multanis was raised. Have they forgotten the words spoken to Husain Khan Langah, a ruler of Multan in the 15th Century, by his Wazir, on his return from Ahmedabad—"India may be the country of riches, yet Multan can boast of being a country of men." Have the people of Jhang forgotten the military exploits of the Sials, of Walidad Khan, Inayat Ullah and above all of the spirited lady Niamat Khatun, who compelled even Maha Singh, father of the Lion of the Punjab, to abandon his intention of attacking the Sials in Jhang? And are the Sials ignorant of what is now being done by the gallant tribes with whom they claim kinship—the Tiwanas of Shahpur and the Ghebas of Attock? The men of Muzaffargarh gave willing assistance to the Government in the time of the Mutiny when they guarded the fords over the Chenab and patrolled the country between

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that river and the Indus. The tribes of Montgomery have at least the reputation of being warlike, and now is their chance of justifying it and of wiping out the memory of their rebellious conduct in 1857 by serving the *Sarkar* whom they then defied in vain. Nor is the want of connection with particular regiments any longer a just excuse as the presence of the 2-56th here and of the 1-124th at Montgomery proves. If you are strongly attached to your homes I call your attention to the significant passage in the address that has been read to-day : " We have lain in the path of almost every conqueror and we have suffered accordingly," to the further statement, " to-day we enjoy complete security from external violence," and I ask will you not stand by the *Sarkar* that has created your prosperity and makes possible the peaceful enjoyment of your homes ? There is no part of the Province for which Government has done and is prepared to do so much. Before your eyes and mine the arid deserts of Lyallpur and Jhang have been changed from *Jangal* into "*Mangal*, and now form the granary of Northern India. That miracle has been wrought in this generation by the Chenab Canal. A similar transformation has been and is till being effected in Montgomery and Multan by the Sidhnai and the Lower Bari Doab Canals, and great schemes for further canal extensions in Multan and parts of Jhang and Muzaffargarh are being worked out and will in time undoubtedly attain realisation. These works are bringing wealth and ease to hundreds of thousands who thirty years ago found life a very hard affair. Liberal grants of land in the new colony have been made to the leading men of the Division in recognition of their position and past services. Are they unable to render the assistance expected of them in the present crisis, unable to follow in the footsteps of their ancestors of sixty years ago, unable to show that active loyalty which has been their pride in the past, and which is one of the conditions of their new grants ? The Commissioner has told us that with few exceptions the leading men of the Division have not put forward their own relations for military service. How can they expect others to listen to their exhortations to serve ? How can they expect Government to continue its favours to men who do not meet their obligations when the time for real service arrives ? Once they have put forward their own relations, they will then be able to co-operate effectively with the district authorities in placing before the people the duty and ad-

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vantages of military service. Its advantages may be realised from the fact that the soldiers of Rawalpindi and Jhelum are sending home twenty lakhs yearly out of their liberal pay and allowances.

War is a great calamity, but it is also a supreme test. I would ask all here to-day to look forward to the time when the war is over and to consider what their position will then be. Who are the men who enjoy the greatest *izzat* and hold the most substantial rewards? Are they not those whose fathers rallied to the side of the *Sarkar* in the Mutiny? Those of you who have received honours and *khillats* and *sanads* to-day in recognition of your services—and I wish the number had been greater—will carry away with you the proof that you have done your duty and done it well. Similar recognition awaits those who will come forward ere it is too late, for in the future, as in the past, honour and rewards will go first to those who show themselves mindful of their obligations. But apart from the dignity and rewards which Government can bestow, I would ask you to consider your position among your fellows if in this time of war you have failed to quit yourselves like men.

Look round this Darbar. It is our privilege to welcome here Indian officers, back from the front, representing some of the most distinguished regiments in the Indian Army. Among them are Sardars from the 14th and 45th Sikhs, the 55th and 58th Rifles, the 10th and 27th Cavalry. Who are these men who have been fighting the King's enemies and your enemies in France, Egypt, Gallipoli and Mesopotamia? They are your Punjabi brethren. Sikhs, Dogras, Khattaks, Jats, Punjabi Muhammadans, and among them I am particularly glad to see representatives of that gallant regiment, the 14th Sikhs, which won for itself undying glory in Gallipoli on 4th June 1915. Those men have been fighting your battles hitherto. Can you look them in the face and say that they shall go on fighting your battles till the end?

I am confident that you are not the men to accept a position so humiliating. But if you are to justify yourselves you must set about it at once and in real earnest. I am glad to note the signs of an awakening. I trust that though late in the field the Multan Division will yet show itself not unworthy of the Province which in this war more than ever

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before has justified its claim to the proud title, the sword arm of India.

We are, I hope, in the last year of the war. I ask you to seize this opportunity so that you may be able to claim a share in the final victory, which under God's providence is assured.

19—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Dera Ghazi Khan on the 18th February 1918.

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At the Darbar held here in 1915 I pointed out that the army offered an honourable career to all and particularly to those who found it difficult to earn a livelihood in their homes, and I said that I should be glad to see the district taking its share in meeting the demand for recruits. It is true that you have not in the past been accustomed to serve in the Indian Army and at the outbreak of war there were less than a score of men from Dera Ghazi Khan in its ranks. You slept away 1915 and 1916, and the year 1917 opened with only 40 men from this district in the army. A special appeal for recruits was made in 1917, and by the end of the year the number had risen to 418, of whom practically all were combatants, and the latest figures gave a total of 640. The improvement though slow is steady, and perhaps justifies me in sharing your confidence that in time the Baloches, Jats and Pathans of this district will come forward in some proportion to their numbers and martial traditions. But you will realise how inadequate the present numbers are from the following figures :—

		Number of males.	Number enlisted.
Baloches	.. ..	115,000	450
Jats	.. ..	77,000	140
Pathans	.. ..	7,000	51

In the Rawalpindi Division, which adjoins you, one man in every seven of fighting age is now serving in the Indian Army. In the adjoining North-West Frontier Province one man in nine of the Pathan population is with the colours. Here in Dera Ghazi Khan you have given so far only one man out of 150.

I realise the difficulties of recruiting among a simple and home-loving people who though brave and loyal have hitherto had no military connections or traditions. I admit

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the good work you are performing by protecting 250 miles of your own border. But with all this I am not satisfied, that you have fully discharged your duty in this great crisis and now that a beginning had been made, I am sure you will not rest content till the results are more worthy of a race which rightly prides itself on its courage and its loyalty.

To the small results hitherto achieved the Sori Lunds, the Mazaris, Legharis, Drishaks and Nutkanis have mainly contributed, while the Bozdars, Kasranis, Gurchanis and Khosas have so far been the most backward.

Most of the recruits have gone to form a Double Company in the 3-124th Balochis at Karachi, and the fact that the regiment is commanded by Colonel Holbrook, who served so long in this district and whom we are all glad to see here to-day, is a guarantee that your *jawans* will meet with kind and considerate treatment. One encouraging feature is that members of the Chiefs' families are beginning to come forward. Sardar Hamidullah Khan, nephew of Nawab Sir Bahram Khan, who originally enlisted in the Punjabi Brigade Signal Section, is now a Jemadar in the 3-124th Balochis, and will, I am confident, uphold the name and traditions of his family. A cousin of the Leghari Chief is also a Jemadar, and offers of service have been received from the eldest sons of the Bozdar and Kasrani Chiefs. I hear that some 30 men of the Baloch Levy following the excellent example of their Subedar-Major Nur Muhammad Khan have volunteered for the army, and I congratulate them on their patriotic decision. All honour to those who led the way. Among these the first was Khan Muhammad Khan, Khosa Leghari, Zaildar of Mamuri, who sent his son and eight of his neighbours to the 10th Lancers, where they have turned out so well that I hear the Commanding Officer would like to have a troop of them. Examples like these should inspire all classes, Tumandars and tribesmen, Jats and Pathans, with a similar spirit of patriotism. The Tumandars have recently received liberal grants of land from the *Sarkar* in the Lower Bari Doab Colony in recognition of their position and past services. Those grants are conditional on active loyalty, and I am confident that they will give proof of this by redoubling their efforts to raise recruits from among their tribes. The Deputy Commissioner tells me that the assistance given by the Mukaddams is less than it should be, and that some of them imagine they have discharged their duty when they have offered service in

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their own homes. The defence of the frontier is no doubt important, but your Pathan neighbours in the North-West Frontier Province are performing the same duty and also giving one *jawan* in every nine to the greater task of defending the Empire. I expect the Tumandars to make the Mukaddams and all their tribesmen understand that it is their duty to provide men for the army which, whether it is fighting in Egypt or Palestine or Mesopotamia, is in reality defending the frontiers of India. Let me quote the words addressed by His Excellency the Viceroy to the Baluchistan Chiefs at his visit to Quetta in October 1917—"When I was told that the martial races of Biluchistan still remain but scantily represented in the army my surprise was almost as great as my regret. I recognise and gladly acknowledge the manly part your Frontier Province plays in standing guard like a faithful sentinel at one of the gates of India. I recognise the sparseness of your population and the other difficulties peculiar to Baluchistan. But I trust that you will now set yourselves in earnest to devise means to secure a more adequate representation of Baluchistan in His Majesty's Forces." Those words apply with equal force to you. In answer to His Excellency's appeal no less than 500 recruits were produced by Baluchistan in the second fortnight of January. Are you contented to stand aside when your neighbours in Baluchistan, the North-West Frontier Province and the Punjab, are coming forward in thousands to fight for a cause which is as much yours as theirs. To this day your bards sing the deeds of the great Baloch warriors of the past. Their song hereafter will be hushed in very shame if you do not now show yourselves worthy of your fathers. But the call to arms is not for the Balochis only. The Jats and Pathans of this district are equally subjects of the *Sarkar* and equally bound by their duty to obey the call of duty and to follow the example of their brethren in other districts and to prove that the Jat and the Pathan are still men."

So far I have appealed to you in the name of your duty to the *Sarkar* and of the call of honour, claims which a loyal and manly people are quick to admit. But the material advantages which a military career now offers are substantial. They may not be so well known in this district as in the rest of the Punjab, and I will repeat what I have said elsewhere. A bonus of Rs. 50 is given to each combatant recruit, Rs. 10 on enrolment and the remaining Rs. 40 as

soon as he is passed fit by the Medical Officer of his regiment. The soldier receives his clothing and food free at the hand of the *Sarkar*. He can save practically all his pay, and it is said that in Rawalpindi and Jhelum as much as 20 lakhs a year are sent home by soldiers of those districts. You can imagine what a difference such a yearly income would make in a poor district. The soldier is carefully guarded against disease ; if disabled by wounds or illness he receives a substantial pension, and if he loses his life on service—and more lives were lost in this district in the recent malaria epidemic than in the 3 years' campaign in Mesopotamia—his family is not forgotten. The man who does his duty well and has ability, can rise to the commissioned ranks and establish his own *izzat* and that of his family for good. Those who may not wish to serve on in the army can take their discharge six months after the end of the war and return to their homes if they have been on service, with a medal on their breasts to show that they have done their duty as brave men. And finally Government has set apart 178,000 acres in the Lower Bari Doab Colony as rewards to those whom the Military authorities select as having rendered specially distinguished service. The honour, *khillats* and *sanads* which I have distributed to-day prove that Government is not slow to recognise those who have served it in times of need, and I trust that your response to my appeal to-day will justify even more ample recognition before the year is over. We are now, there is reason to believe, in the last year of the war, and if you are to play a part in it worthy of your forefathers, worthy of your name, you must come forward without delay, so as to share in the final struggle and in the credit of the final victory.

**20—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Amritsar on the
17th April 1918.**

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The bulk of the Indian Army is recruited from the Punjab ; and there is no district in India more famous as a recruiting ground than yours, pre-eminently the home of the Manjha Sikh. Even before the war practically every regiment which enlists Sikhs drew on this district for recruits ; for had not the exploits of the Khalsa Armies under the Sikh Government made this tract renowned as the home of brave men ? But the demands of this world-wide war have created a new situation ; a year ago Amritsar was called on to put forth increased effort ; and it is a great satisfaction to me to be able to come here to-day and to show Government's recognition of what this district has hitherto done. In July last it raised the splendid total of 1,095 men ; in no month has the return fallen below 500 ; and the average is just under 600. It is no surprise, then, to find that Amritsar stands fourth in the number of men serving in the army on the 1st January last and fourth in the number recruited last year, *viz.*, 5,969. It is estimated that at the end of last month Amritsar had 16,500 men serving with the colours, of whom over 80 per cent. are fighting men, many of them winning renown in the armies which are defending India on the plains of Flanders and France, among the hills of Palestine, or in the deserts of Mesopotamia, where 700 miles up the river from Basra a fortnight ago our gallant British and Indian troops wiped out a Turkish Army capturing over 5,000 prisoners, with a total loss to ourselves of only 250 killed and wounded. The fighting spirit of the Khalsa still inspires and animates the men of Amritsar. In this war the district has already won no less than 69 honours and rewards for gallantry in the field, comprising 3 Military Crosses, 7 Orders of British India, 16 Orders of Merit, 31 Distinguished Service Medals, 8 Meritorious Service Medals, 1 Russian Medal of the Order of St. George, 2 Crosses of the Serbian Order of Karageorge and 1 Serbian Gold Medal. Of these honours Amritsar Tahsil claims 37, Tarn Taran 21, and Ajnala 11. Sixty of these honours have fallen

to the Sikh Jats ; one each to an Ahluwalia, a Mazhbi, and a Brahman ; and four to Muhammadans. It would take too long to read out the names of all those who have been honoured ; their names and exploits may be found in the Gazettes. But I would here mention specially the award of the Military Cross to Jemadar Sohan Singh, a Jat of Dhariwal, in Ajnala, for conspicuous gallantry under heavy fire ; the award of the Order of Merit to Naik Jhanda Singh, a Jat of Chamba, in Tarn Taran, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action under heavy fire with a total disregard of danger when assisting to bring in a wounded British Officer ; the award of the same Order and the Cross of Karageorge to Lance-Dafadar Khazan Singh, of Udainangal, in Amritsar, for conspicuous gallantry and resource in action. He voluntarily swam across a river and successfully boarded and captured an enemy boat containing Turks and Arabs. Deeds of heroism like these show that the spirit of Saragarhi is still alive among the Sikhs of Amritsar, and they will, I trust, some day find a place on a district roll of honour or on a memorial to be raised to those who have fought and bled for the righteous cause of their King and country during this war. I spoke just now of the defence of India in Palestine and Mesopotamia. I have said again and again publicly that there lies the first line of the defence of India from German aggression. We know that the Germans are aiming at India no less than at the other portions of our Empire. We know that they have pursued their object in the past by intrigue and conspiracy and by plots to stir up disorder and dissatisfaction in India. Those plots have failed, but it is probable that the enemy will now endeavour to gain his ends by force. In the past Russia stood in the way of German aggression in Asia. The collapse of Russia, which fell by its own folly a helpless prey to anarchy and revolution (such as the *Ghadr* conspirators sought to involve this Province in), has not only enabled Germany to renew her offensive on the west with redoubled vigour, but has also opened the door to her ambitions in the East. There is, I need hardly say, not a word of truth in the foolish rumours that the invasion of India is imminent, and that serious trouble has already arisen in Baluchistan. The petty rising of the Marri tribe has been promptly suppressed ; the Chief and his followers surrendered unconditionally on the 8th instant ; our troops are already returning ; and our western frontiers were never more free from disturbance

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or more securely guarded than they are to-day. We must, however, be prepared to repel any possible menace to India from Germany and her Allies by our operations beyond the borders of India—in Palestine, in Mesopotamia, and wherever else occasion requires. This is the meaning of the solemn message which on the 2nd of this month the Prime Minister of England addressed to His Excellency the Viceroy. I will read his appeal :—

“Thanks to the heroic efforts of the British Armies, assisted by their Allies, the attempt of the enemy in the West is being checked, but if we are to prevent the menace spreading to the East and gradually engulfing the world, every lover of freedom and law must play his part. I have no doubt that India will add to the laurels it has already won and will equip itself on an even greater scale than at present to be the bulwark which will save Asia from the tide of oppression and disorder which it is the object of the enemy to achieve.”

His Excellency the Viceroy has sent the following reply :—

“ Your message comes at a time when all India is stirred to the depths by the noble sacrifices now being made by the British people in the cause of the world's freedom and by the stern unalterable resolution which those sacrifices evince. India anxious, yet confident, realises to the full the great issues at stake in this desperate conflict, and your trumpet call at this crisis will not fall upon deaf ears. I feel confident that it will awaken the Princes and the peoples' leaders to a keener sense of the grave danger which, stemmed in Europe, now threatens to move eastward. I shall look to them for the fullest effort and the fullest sacrifice to safeguard the soil of their motherland against all attempts of a cruel and unscrupulous enemy and to secure the final triumph of those ideals of justice and honour for which the British Empire stands.”

Gentlemen, speaking for my own Province, I, too, am confident that this call will not fall upon deaf ears anywhere in the Punjab, and I look to Amritsar, with its splendid past record, to lead the way in the central districts. Amritsar, the centre of the Manjha, now has one man in every ten of its enlistable population serving in the army ; but Ludhiana, in the Malwa, has done better, and has one man in every eight serving ; and Ferozepore is fast making

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up leeway. Taking the present male population of fighting age in this district at 153,000 the Sikhs roughly number 63,000, the Hindus 20,000, and the Muhammadans 70,000. On the 31st March, 1918, the number in the army was roughly—

Sikhs	..	11,250, or more than one in 6.
Hindus	..	1,100, or one in 18.
Muhammadans	..	3,900, or one in 17.
Christians	..	250.

But Jhelum, Rawalpindi, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Attock and Hissar have all given a higher proportion of their sons. And in response to the appeal that the Empire makes for redoubled efforts I confidently rely on the men of Amritsar to excel in the future their past efforts. You will see what a large reserve there is still to be drawn upon, and when I tell you that in Great Britain nearly one-third of the *total* male population is now under arms, 6 million men out of 20 millions, besides the millions occupied on munitions, ship-building, &c., you will realise how small our sacrifice has been as compared with theirs. I appeal to the great martial clans of the Manjha—the Sindhus, the Gils, the Dhillons, the Chahils, the Randhawas and Sidhus, who formed the backbone of the Armies of the Khalsa—to show the martial ardour and enthusiasm which distinguished them in the past. If regard be had to available numbers the Mazhbi Sikhs have far surpassed the Jats. All honour to the Mazhbis; but do the Jats view the Cavalry of the Mazhbis with equanimity? Can they afford to allow themselves to be surpassed in loyalty because under the British Crown they have grown rich and prosperous?

Here in Amritsar it is appropriate to show how the Sikhs as a whole have responded to the call. They are less than 1 per cent. of the population of the Indian Empire, but since the war began they have furnished 15 per cent. of the recruits to the Indian Army. That is something to be proud of specially as before the war they had been drawn upon more heavily than any other military class.

Now, I turn to the Hindus. They more than any other community have prospered under the British Government and have benefited by the vast commerce of which this city is now the centre. If they had done as well as the Sikhs they would have supplied 800 men to the combatant ranks instead of 86. True, some hundreds of Hindus have been

enlisted as muleteers or non-combatants ; but what have the Brahmans, the Khatris, who claim to be a warrior caste, and other Hindu tribes done to help their country ? Look at the Gaur Brahmans of the South-East Punjab. They had no previous military associations, no previous warlike traditions, and yet they have in this war made an undying name for themselves. Look at the Hindu Jats of Rohtak and Hissar and the Ahirs of Gurgaon, who, month by month, have, with unfailing regularity, furnished their hundreds of young men without regard to the sacrifice involved. Will not the Hindus of Amritsar make a more determined attempt to emulate their brethren in these districts ? Those who by occupation or tradition are unfitted for active service can at least come forward to join the Indian Defence Force for which shortly recruiting will be reopened. Last year's appeal only produced 140 suitable men for the Defence Force from the whole Province. You will ask how many of these were from Amritsar ? I regret to say only 11.

And now what of the Muhammadans ? In the past 12 months they have woken up and sent 1,404 men into the fighting line out of a population of 70,000. The Jats and Rajputs have between them contributed over one-third of this aggregate and the Arains have here, too, begun to realise their duty and made some contributions of men since the new year. I am confident that the recent eloquent appeal of the leaders of the community will yield good results in the near future. The other tribes have produced but little. Look at what the Mussalmans of Rawalpindi, Jhelum and Attock have done, and are doing. The two former districts have yielded up more than 25 per cent. of their young manhood ; the last-named has given over 14 per cent. Will the Mussalmans of Amritsar rest content at this crisis with their present insignificant contribution of 6 per cent. I cannot believe it : I shall look to see them under the stimulating example of their leading men and the wise guidance of their Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Burton, whose efforts have already begun to bear fruit, rise to a sense of their responsibility and assist in averting from their homes the menace of foreign aggression by coming forward in their hundreds, month by month, to join the standard. I realise that for another month or so the rural classes will be busy in reaping the fine harvest now ripe for the sickle, and that full results cannot be expected in this period. But I trust that you will make use of it to organise a great effort for the

following months, and I look to all of you gentlemen here present and to all others who have influence among the people to make that effort worthy of Amritsar and worthy of this great emergency. The Sardars and people of Amritsar have never hitherto failed in their duty to their Government or to their country whether in providing men to defend both or in providing money to enable the war to be carried on or to assist in other ways. I have to-day much pleasure in acknowledging the generous manner in which this district has subscribed to the various war funds and the care with which they have tended the sick and wounded who have been sent to your finely-equipped war hospital from the campaigns overseas to recruit their health under the skilful treatment of your Civil Surgeon, Lieutenant-Colonel Smith.

There is one further matter which I want to impress upon you here, and that is the obligations imposed on you of preventing by all means in your power any injury being done to the interests of absent soldiers who are fighting on your behalf. It is your duty to protect their honour and their property, and I confidently look to see you discharge that duty.

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**21—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Ferozepore on the
19th April 1918.**

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You have referred to my visit in August last when it was my unpleasant lot to point out Ferozepore's indifference to its duty in providing men for the army which was defending India from hostile menace and to arouse you to a sense of your responsibilities. I then appealed to you to come into line with your neighbours, and reach the standard of recruiting which other Sikh districts like Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur had set. I then hoped that when I next paid Ferozepore a visit I should have the privilege of showing Government's recognition of your response to the call of duty and patriotism. Well, Gentlemen, you have given the response which I expected from the men of Ferozepore, and to-day I have come here in order to congratulate you on what you have achieved in the last eight months and to show in some measure Government's recognition of your efforts. Under the spirited leadership and untiring efforts of your Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Clarke, of his officers, and of the many prominent members of various communities, whose names Mr. Hallifax has specially mentioned and whose loyal services I gratefully acknowledge, you at once organised yourselves and you set to work with such a will that Ferozepore, which last August stood lowest in this Division in the number of recruits to the Indian Army, had, by the end of the year, raised itself to the second place, being surpassed only by Hoshiarpur which, as you remark, had a long start in the race. In January 1917 you were about 20th of the 28 districts of the province in military service; to-day you have risen to the 14th place.

Twice has Ferozepore gained the distinction—earned by few districts—of exceeding in the month a total of 1,000 recruits, and its monthly average since its awakening has been well over 600. This achievement, Gentlemen, shows what organisation and determination can achieve. Out of an available population of 165,000 you have, since August, raised nearly 6,000 recruits, and have now nearly 10,000 men, or 1 man in 17, fighting for your country, but you are still below the average for the whole province and you are

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still a long way behind the Muhammadan districts of Jhelum and Rawalpindi, where the proportion is 1 in 3 ; the Hindu districts of Rohtak and Gurgaon, where the ratios are 1 in 7 and 9 respectively, and the neighbouring Sikh districts of Ludhiana and Amritsar, which have supplied one man in 7 and 1 in 10.

While, therefore, I can congratulate you heartily on what you have done since August last I would not have you think, and I am sure that you do not wish to think, that you can now rest on your oars and cease to put forth your best efforts. On the contrary, the stirring message which the Prime Minister of England has addressed to India and the reply which His Excellency the Viceroy has sent on India's behalf warn us that the Empire's need is now greater than ever and that you must increase and multiply your efforts to keep your hearths and homes secure from the dangers which menace them. As I said at Amritsar, in France and Flanders, in Palestine and in Mesopotamia, stand the gateways to India and it is there that we must repel the onslaughts of our enemies. How violent these attacks are the great struggle now proceeding in the West at the present moment testifies. Reinforced by great masses of men and material which the collapse of Russia has set free, the Germans are staking their all on an attempt to roll back the Allies' lines. The King-Emperor's armies have a great burden to bear for not only have they in the West to defend France and Belgium, stiffen the resistance of Italy, and protect Greece from hostile attack, but in Asia they have to safeguard India by holding Egypt, and by rolling back the Turks and their German allies in Palestine and Mesopotamia. It is in the Asiatic campaign that the Indian Army is doing such splendid work, and it is above all the duty of India so to strengthen those forces as to avert all danger of invasion. Here I may repeat what I said two days ago at Amritsar that the rumours of an impending invasion of India are absolutely groundless, and I would add that we need have no fear of invasion provided we are strong and ready. Whenever India wants fighting men she looks first to the Punjab. We are proud of our pre-eminence and, heavy though the burden may be, the Punjab has never shrunk from it.

The statistics put before you to-day prove that there is still great scope for further efforts in Ferozepore, and that

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the burden has not yet been evenly adjusted between tahsils or communities. The Sikhs, out of 45,000 men of fighting age, have, up to date given 6,855 men or more than 1 in 7. I congratulate the Sikhs most heartily, but here, as at Amritsar, I should like to see the proportion of Jat Sikhs as high as that of the Mazhbis. The Muhammadans, out of 70,000, have given 2,337, or 1 in 30. The Hindus, out of 48,000, have given 864, or 1 in 55. Compared with the Sikhs, who have always had a high military reputation and an established military connection with the most famous regiments in the Indian Army, the Muhammadans and Hindus are at a disadvantage. But they have shown a remarkable improvement since August last and two-thirds of the Muhammadans and of the Hindus have been enrolled since. Now that the initial difficulties have been overcome and a strong military connection established for the Muhammadans and Hindus by the efforts of Mr. Clarke I am confident of much greater results in the future. Again comparing tahsils, Moga, which has a strong Sikh population, comes easily first in the district and is, perhaps, one of the first in the province, with 5,500 men in the army, or 1 in 7. Ferozepore, although it has a larger population, has furnished less than one-fifth the number of men provided by Moga, viz., 1,000. Fazilka, with the largest population of all the tahsils, has done less than Ferozepore, having roughly 1,400 men, or 1 man in 27 serving. Muktsar with less than 1,000 men, or with 1 in 30, is below Zira, with 1,000 or 1 in 26. I exhort Moga, which has already made such a name for itself, to go on doing its duty with the same splendid spirit, and I want the other tahsils to redouble their efforts and emulate Moga's example. Of particular tribes I would invite attention to the fine example set in the last three months by the Baurias, of whom 134 have enlisted in the last few months. I was glad to see a fine body of these men lately in the Sikhs at Lahor Cantonment and to hear good accounts of their conduct from their officers. I have had much pleasure in giving orders that not only men who have enlisted but also their nearest relatives are to be exempted from the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act. I hope that by their plucky behaviour the Baurias will not only raise the *izzat* of their tribe but in time acquire as high a military reputation as the Mazhbi Sikhs. Even among tribes and classes who had no military traditions, no connection with the army, the spirit of military service is now being steadily

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established and they are beginning to realise that in the time of the Empire's need it is their duty to serve and that *khidmat* will bring them lasting *izzat*.

As your Commissioner has remarked, a soldier's life is not all danger. You have only to look round on the number of distinguished military officers, active and retired, present in this Darbar to see that and to realise that military service offers an honourable career to all who embrace it. It also ensures many material advantages. The substantial increases in pay and pensions announced at the beginning of last year and the grant of free rations to the men are well known. Further, the rates of *batta* have been raised and *batta* is now drawn by silladar cavalry. Larger and better accommodation has been provided in lines and quarters, and in all new lines provision is made for a club for Indian officers. A scheme for the grant of canal lands provided by the Punjab Government and other rewards to Indian soldiers, who have distinguished themselves during the war, has, moreover, been improved by the Secretary of State. It is proposed to allot some of these grants of land as soon as possible, but the main scheme will not come into operation until after the war, and every man who joins before the end of the war and distinguishes himself in the field stands a chance of receiving one. Another beneficial change has been effected by the revision of the scale of allowances attached to the Indian Order of Merit, while Indian officers have been declared eligible for the Military Cross, and the grant of a special money allowance to accompany this decoration, amounting to Rs. 40 per mensem for officers and Rs. 11 for warrant officers, has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Special distinction awaits the leaders of the great martial tribes who are taking an active part in raising men for the service of the King-Emperor. At the Jullundur Darbar a few months ago I announced the grant of the King's Commission to two leading Sikh Sardars of the Division, Sardar Jasjit Singh Ahluwalia and Sardar Bahadur Rajinder Singh of Pakhoke, and two days ago at Amritsar I was privileged to announce the grant of the King's Commission to nine other gentlemen, viz.:—Sardar Raghbir Singh, Sandhanwalia, Nawab Ibrahim Ali Khan of Kunjpura, Karnal, Rao Bahadur Balbir Singh, Ahir, of Gurgaon, Khan Sahib Malik Muhammad Akbar Khan, Jodhra, of Pindigheb, Attock, Khan Sikandar Hayat Khan, Khattar, of Wah, Attock, Malik Sardar Khan, Nun, or Shah-

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pur, Malik Khizar Hayat Khan, Tiwana, of Kalra, Shahpur, Malik Muhammd Sher Khan, Tiwana, of Shahpur, and Chaudhri Damodar Singh of Rawalpindi. Ferozepore does not figure on the list, but many of your leading men have received substantial rewards for their services. All here will congratulate Khan Sahib Gul Muhammad on the grant of five squares of canal land and the other three gentlemen who have received two squares each for their loyal services. Over and above these I have now the pleasure of announcing the grant of *jagirs* of Rs. 250 each to Jemadar Ajit Singh of Muktsar, late of the Central India Horse, and Mehr Jalal Din, Arain, of Karian, for their special services in recruiting.

You will, I know, like to hear of the honours that the soldiers of this district have already gained in this war. They number 45, and comprise 1 Order of British India, 16 Orders of Merit, 23 Distinguished Service Medals, 1 Meritorious Service Medal, 1 Cross and 1 Gold Medal of the Russian Order of St. George, 1 Cross of the Serbian Order of Karageorge, and 1 Bronze Medal for military valour. Moga Tahsil has won 33 of these distinctions, Ferozepore and Zira 5 each and Fazilka and Muktsar 1 each. With one exception, all these honours have gone to Jat Sikhs. You have just seen, too, a fine body of men of the 14th (Ferozepore) Sikhs to whom I have had the pleasure of presenting war badges which they have earned by their gallant services in Gallipoli and other theatres of the war. But I am confident that before the war is over the Muhammadans and Hindus of Ferozepore, who were late in coming forward, will have proved that they have the same true and steady Punjab valour as their Sikh brethren, and I am also sure that the Sikhs, being brave men themselves, will be the first to rejoice in the honours won by their Muhammadan and Hindu brethren. It would take too long to mention here all the recipients whose names have been published in the official Gazettes, but I may mention especially Jamadar Suba Singh of Sadasinghwala in Moga, who was awarded the Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When in command of a patrol of 9 men he surprised and engaged 400 of the enemy under German officers. Although severely wounded he continued to lead his men and fought with great determination and courage. That is the true spirit of the Khalsa. Naik Jawand Singh of Dina in Moga gained the same distinction for great gallantry when in command of a cable-laying party; in his efforts to remove

a wounded man of his party he was himself hit. Lance-Naik Sohan Singh of Lohgad in Zira also gained the Order of Merit for conspicuous gallantry and ability in action ; when his jamadar and havildar had been wounded he assumed command of the men and led them to the final assaults with great coolness and determination. These heroic deeds are worthy of special mention, but I venture to say, and I think everyone in this Darbar will agree with me, that the four Sikh widowed mothers who have been honoured in to-day's Darbar for giving up their sons to fight for the King-Emperor have shown even greater heroism, and I trust that their noble example will inspire many others. Now that Ferozepore has begun to supply its thousands to the army we shall confidently expect that this roll of honour will be rapidly added to. For the organisation that has helped you to the results achieved you have much to thank your officers, but I would remind you of the proverb '*himmat-e-mardan madad-e-Khuda*' (God helps those who help themselves). The most effective way in which men of influence, such as you here present, can help is by giving (as Bhai Takht Singh and others, who have been honoured to-day, have done) your own relatives, not by purchasing other peoples. After the next few weeks, when the lull caused by harvest operations is over, I shall look forward to see Ferozepore, with its great population, steadily improving its place among the great recruiting districts in the province. In population it stands third in the province, in the manpower supplied to the army it is still only 14th, and you and I will feel that it has not done its duty fully till it establishes a much higher place. To those whose occupations prevent them from joining the combatant forces I would point out that they have now a further opportunity of joining the I.D.F.

22—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Ambala on the 11th May 1918.

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Gentlemen,—This Darbar is primarily concerned with the question of recruitment. How, then, does the Ambala Division stand? On the 31st March, excluding Simla, you had 54,000 men serving in the army or 1 man in 11 of fighting age. The proportion is the same as in Jullundur but only half that of Rawalpindi. Rohtak comes 3rd in the Province in numbers and Gurgaon 6th: Hissar also has a fairly good place, but Karnal with a much larger population than Rohtak had only 3,400 men in the army against Rohtak's 18,000, and Ambala with the same population had only 5,500. In the 15 months ending 31st March Gurgaon had supplied 8,000 recruits, being surpassed only by Jhelum: Rohtak had given 7,500, being surpassed only by Jhelum and Gurgaon: Hissar gave 7,000, standing 6th in the Province, while Ambala gave only 2,600 and Karnal only 2,400. Excluding the Multan Division, which is now beginning to move, Karnal is the worst district in the Province with only 1 man in 40, and Ambala is also among the worst with only 1 in 23 in the army. Compare these figures with those of Rohtak 1 in 7, Gurgaon 1 in 8, and Hissar 1 in 10, and it will appear how Karnal and Ambala have been put to shame by their neighbours. I appealed last autumn to these two districts to remove the reproach that they were not playing in this great war a part worthy of their past history and their resources. How have they responded to my call? Karnal, I am sorry to say, has not yet made any adequate response, but I am told that the local authorities have now carefully surveyed the position and organized recruiting on new lines, and I earnestly hope that while there is still time Karnal will set about doing its duty of sharing the burden of defending the country and the Empire.

— As I said at Lahore the German menace must be faced: it is not immediate: but it is none the less real, and if we are to meet it we must be ready and forearmed. Our need for men then is immediate. We hope to meet it by the voluntary system, but time is short: seize it while you may

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and let it not be said that the failure of districts like Karnal to do their duty voluntarily compelled Government to adopt other measures.

Ambala for long showed the same apathy as Karnal, but during the last 3 months under the vigorous organization of Captain Trevaskis and the various Civil and Military Officers, to whom the Commissioner has referred in his speech and whose good work I gratefully acknowledge, apathy and indifference have begun to yield to alertness and activity. For the first 6 months after my last Darbar, Ambala produced in all 934 recruits : in the last 3 months it has raised 1,289 men and has twice headed the Division. Ambala, which could last July only show a ratio of 1 man in the army to every available 33, has now a proportion of 1 to every 23. I would also take this opportunity of congratulating the Sirmur and Kalsia States on the success with which their cordial co-operation with the recruiting officers has been crowned. I am confident that both these States and Ambala having put their hands to the plough will not again look back. I said last year that if Ambala achieved the results expected of it, I should have much pleasure in coming here this year and distributing the honours and rewards which Ambala would have thereby gained. It is with particular pleasure I have granted 5 squares of canal land to the widowed Sikh mother and to the four Sikh fathers, each of whom had given not less than 4 sons to the service of the King-Emperor, and I am glad to have this opportunity of announcing the grant of 5 squares to the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Lal Chand of Rohtak who has done so much to bring about the splendid response which the Jat community in those districts have made to the call and of 2 squares to Chaudhri Taj Muhammad, *sufedposh* of Kalanaur. The Ahirs in Gurgaon and the Muhammadan Rajputs in Rohtak and Hissar have indeed proved themselves second to none in martial and patriotic spirit, and in addition to other rewards I have had much pleasure in recognising their services by selecting for the Provincial Civil Service Chaudhri Surat Singh, B.A., Ahir of Gurgaon, and Shamshad Ali Khan, M.Sc., Muhammadan Rajput of Kalanaur—a village famous throughout the province for the number of brave soldiers it produces. Shamshad Ali Khan showed that a student's career had not dulled his hereditary spirit for he was among the first to volunteer for the University Signalling Corps and is now at the front. But, Gentlemen, while I congratulate Rohtak,

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Gurgaon and Hissar on their fine record, and hold them up as an example to Karnal and Ambala, I must also point out in the words of the King-Emperor that the contribution of the Division as a whole is by no means the full measure of its resources and its strength. The vast access of strength which our enemies have received by the collapse of our former Ally Russia necessitates redoubled efforts on our part; and what might have been considered adequate a few months ago is insufficient to meet the situation of to-day.

That is clearly brought out in the impressive message of His Majesty and in the Premier's appeal. In the West England and her colonies are employing enormous resources in repelling the enemy's assaults on our Allies in Belgium, France and Italy. In the East our gallant armies in Palestine and Mesopotamia, consisting largely of Indian troops, are pressing victoriously forward and throwing back the Turks and Germans who menaced India from that side. To maintain this pressure in the East and to bar any advances from other directions the King-Emperor and the Empire look to India. Are they to look in vain? That is why 5 lakhs of fighting men are required this year from India, that is why knowing the share the Punjab has always taken and is now willing to take in the defence of the Empire, I have asked for 2 lakhs of men from the Province, of whom 180,000 are to be fighting men. Last year we recruited $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of combatants. Rohtak, Gurgaon and Hissar have given their fair share of that number: Rohtak and Gurgaon even more. But knowing the spirit and determination of those districts I am confident their efforts in this critical year will even surpass what they have done in the past. Ambala and Karnal have much leeway to make up, but I am glad to believe that they are resolved not to lag behind. You may wish to hear from me what share of the 2 lakhs of men the Ambala Division and each district is expected to furnish? Since last Saturday's conference I have carefully considered this point with your Commissioner and other officers, with regard to the man-power of each district, its past efforts, the physique and martial qualities of the people and their previous connection with the army. Our rough conclusion is that these five districts, which have already over 54,000 men in the army and raised 28,000 in the 15 months ending 31st March last, should supply by 31st March next another 40,000, viz., Karnal 10,000, Ambala 9,000, Gurgaon 8,000, Hissar 7,500, Rohtak 5,500.

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That would mean, if we include the numbers at present serving, 20 per cent. of the men of fighting age from Rohtak, 18 per cent. from Gurgaon, 15 per cent. from Hissar, $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from Ambala and 10 per cent. from Karnal. That is a great advance, I know, on any previous demands : but it is small as compared with what the rest of the Empire is doing : the call for men has come, we know the men are there and we must meet the call. Let me briefly examine the position in a single district—Ambala. In the first place, what have the various tahsils done in the past ? Kharar heads the list with nearly 2,400 men in the army, followed closely by Rupar with 2,000. These contain the Sikh tracts which from the start have nobly done their duty. Ambala has only 750 men with the colours, Jagadhri 500 and Naraingarh out of its many thousands of men has hitherto only furnished just over 300 men.

How are these recruits distributed among the various communities ? Out of a total of 5,500 fighting men in the ranks—

the Sikhs have 3,500, or 1 man in every 4 available.
the Muhammadans have 1,150 or 1 man in every 29.
the Hindus 800 or 1 man in every 79.

There are 50 Indian Christians.

For the district as a whole, I am asking only 1 man out of every 8 between the age of 18 and 35. If the Hindus and Muhammadans had enlisted in the same proportion as the Sikhs we should have had already twice the number of men required.

It is plain that the Muhammadans and Hindus have lagged far behind the Sikhs and the Sikhs have so far won all the 18 military honours awarded to men of the Ambala District during this war. I will give you here the names of three of those men who have earned fame by their heroism. Jamadar Gurmukh Singh, a Saini Sikh of Gadram Badi in Rupar, won the 1st Class Order of Merit and the 2nd Class Cross of the Russian Order of St. George for his splendid courage on the night of the 1st March 1916 when he advanced under the greatest difficulties, continually crawling forward and digging himself in. Havildar Dalip Singh, Jat Sikh of Nigalia in Kharar, won the 2nd Class Order of Merit by

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his conspicuous gallantry in action on the 17th November 1914 when with a party of Sappers under the command of a British Officer he was always to the fore and led his men with great determination into the enemy's trenches. Subedar-Major Jagindar Singh, Saini Sikh of Kheri Salabatpur in Rupar, gained the 2nd Class Order of Merit at the battle of Loos in Belgium for striking leadership and conspicuous bravery in action after most of his company and all but one British Officer in his regiment had been killed or wounded. This officer was also awarded the 2nd Class of the Order of British India for distinguished conduct in the field.

Will not the other communities of this district bestir themselves and seek to gain similar distinction? Will not Muhammadans and Hindus come forward in numbers equal to the Sikhs? The Koran and the Shastras inculcate the same duty to support a just king and resist an unrighteous enemy as the Granth Sahib of the Sikhs and the scriptures of the Christians.

There are tribes such as the Hindu Rajputs who have given 1 in every 9 available men to the colours and are prepared to do yet more, but what of the Gaur and other Brahmans who out of their great numbers have not yet contributed 100 men to the army, or of the Hindu Jats, who have spared but 250 men in 4 long years? To the Hindus and Muhammadans of Ambala and Karnal I would say: 'Look at the splendid records of the Gaur Brahmans in Sonapat and neighbouring districts of the United Provinces and of the Jats of Rohtak, Hissar and Gurgaon and Ahirs, of the Muhammadan Rajputs of Rohtak and Hissar, of the Meos of Gurgaon.'

Is it necessary for me to say that the soldier's career, while it provides an honourable livelihood and opportunities of fame and distinction to those who adopt it, is not all fighting and danger. The Punjab has lost more men from plague in the single month of April than the Punjab armies have lost in the field since the war began, and the presence of many gallant soldiers here to-day wearing the medals of many a hard-fought campaign proves that even in the battle-field no one dies before his appointed hour. I put these broad facts before you and, I ask, will the Hindus and the Muhammadans of Ambala and Karnal still hang back and wait until their country is in immediate danger and they are *constrained* to do their duty?

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**23—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Gujranwala on
3rd August 1918.**

DARBARIS, SARDARS AND GENTLEMEN,—It is a great pleasure to me to meet you in this Darbar and I express my hearty thanks to the members of the District War League for their admirable address. It is just a year since I stood in this Hall among representatives of the three districts of Gujranwala, Sialkot and Gurdaspur. I then distributed rewards and honours to those who had rendered conspicuous services during three years of strenuous warfare and I exhorted the people of this district in particular to throw off their indifference and come forward to play their part in the Empire's struggle. I said that I should look forward with confidence to the efforts Gujranwala would make during the coming year. I rejoice that the circumstances in which I now revisit my old district are far different from those of last year. I was then constrained to reproach you for your apathy in the Empire's cause and to contrast your indifference with the splendid record of your neighbours in Gujrat and Amritsar; to-day I can sincerely congratulate you on what you have done to redeem Gujranwala's good name.

A year ago I attributed your previous ill success in recruiting not to any lack of patriotism or martial spirit—the past record of the leading Muhammadan, Sikh and Hindu tribes of the district establishes their martial qualities—but mainly to want of organisation. That defect has now been made good and at the Lahore War Conference in May I was able to cite Gujranwala as a model to the whole Province of what could be done by mutual co-operation and systematized efforts. A year ago Gujranwala had 3,388 men in the Army, or only one man in every 150 of the total male population. At the end of last month—it had 11,765 men with the Colours, which gives a ratio of 1 man in every 44 of the total male population and 1 in every 14 of military age. Thus within a year you have raised nearly 8,500 men. That is a triumphant instance of successful organization, mainly due to the untiring activities of your admirable District War League under the inspiring and energetic guidance of your Deputy Commissioner, Colonel

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O'Brien, and his assistants, and backed up by the Divisional Recruiting Officer, Major Barnes, and his recruiting staff. But without the hearty co-operation of the people of the district and their leaders it would have been impossible to achieve these results : and it has given me very great pleasure to-day to be able to present titles, *khillats* and *sanads* to so many of my old friends who have taken to heart my words of last August and shown that they realized wherein their duty to their King and Empire lay. There is no other district in the Province which can boast of having sent to the Indian Army over 1,000 men a month for four consecutive months as Gujranwala did in the period of December to March. Of the quality of those recruits I have excellent accounts : and if the guard of honour furnished by the 3rd Guides this morning and the depôts of the 1st-54th Sikhs, the 2nd-30th Punjabis and the 71st Punjabis, which I have just inspected, are fair samples, Gujranwala may indeed be proud of its *jawans*. True, since then the figures have fallen off more sharply than I could have wished, and even allowing for the pre-occupation of the spring harvest and the Ramzan fast, the drop in the district returns for May and June has been very serious. The recovery in July, however, when the district again raised over 1,000 men, has been splendid and inspires confidence for the future : but the need for men is now even greater than it was last year and the demand upon you is correspondingly heavier. In response to the King-Emperor's message to the Princes and People of India last April we in the Punjab have pledged ourselves to provide 2 lakhs of men by the end of May 1919, and that pledge we must redeem. You all know why we have undertaken this burden. Since last year our enemies have been immensely strengthened by the collapse of Russia and during the last few months have been making the most desperate attempts to break through our defences on the Western Front before we should have received reinforcements from our American allies. Thanks to the splendid resistance of the British and French, assisted by the Americans and Italians, these attempts have been foiled and the enemy has been hurled back : the struggle has been severe but the splendid victories recently gained in France over the Germans, the collapse of the Turks in Mesopotamia and the steady set back to the Turks and Germans in Palestine—all these facts justify our confidence that under God's providence the tide which is to bear us on to the haven of complete vic-

tory has at last turned in our favour. But our dangers have not yet vanished and our foes will strain every nerve to stir up intrigue and trouble on our own borders. As I explained in my Darbars at Amritsar and Ferozepore last April, there is no need for us in India to apprehend any danger of invasion if we hold ourselves ready and on the alert. To use a homely simile, the burglar does not attempt to break into your house if he knows that you are prepared and watching for his attack. So we must be prepared to meet danger from whichever quarter it threatens; and above all, we must maintain the greatest pressure possible, by means of our Indian Army, on the Palestine and on the Mesopotamian Fronts in order that our enemies may have no rest, and no time to mature plots against India. That is what the Premier in his message exhorted us to do. But that message was misunderstood in many directions and there are unfortunately parts of the province, especially the west, where false rumours of the enemy being close to our borders have alarmed a credulous and ignorant people, driven many to hoard rupees and bury their jewellery, and deterred the faint-hearted from enlisting and even in some cases to oppose recruitment.

‘Fame, the great ill, from small beginnings grows.
Swift from the first : and every moment brings
New vigour to her flights, new pinions to her
wings.

She fills the peaceful universe with cries.
No slumbers ever close her wakeful eyes :
Talk is her business ; and her chief delight
To tell of prodigies and cause afright.’

So sang the great Latin poet Virgil, but I do not suppose that he ever imagined such ridiculous and fantastic stories as gain currency in the bazars of this Province.

It would be futile to attempt to track down their origins: often they are merely the credulous gossip of the ignorant : sometimes they are the idle inventions of those who seek to amuse themselves at the expense of their simple neighbours : or, as in the case of the scare about bank notes endeavour to profit by their ignorance : and sometimes, I fear, their source may be traced to our enemies and evil-wishers who seek to discredit the action of Government and

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spread alarm and distrust among the people. In this connection I would commend to your notice an excellent article contributed by your Deputy Commissioner a fortnight ago to the *Punjab Chronicle* on the subject of combating false rumours. I would strongly advise you all to study that article and, as is the bounden duty of all good citizens, impress the facts so lucidly stated therein on all your friends who take alarmist views of the situation. You have an excellent *War Gazette*, ably edited by Lala Amar Nath, whose many-sided services have been recognised by the grant of the honour of M.B.E., and you have recently formed a District Publicity Committee. By the activities of these organizations I trust you will dispel wild and childish rumours and successfully propagate throughout the breadth and length of this district sane and truthful accounts of events as they occur.

I have explained to you already why the Province has undertaken to furnish 200,000 men in the year ending 31st May 1919. Taking into consideration the population of this district and its military habits and what it has already done, we have fixed the quota to be furnished by Gujranwala at 14,000 or say 1,200 per mensem. That is a fairly heavy demand calling for persistent and unremitting endeavour, but relatively to the district's resources in man-power it is no more serious a burden than we are imposing on other districts of the Division. I am asking you only for a total of 15 per cent. of the men of fighting age; while your neighbours in Gujrat and Amritsar are being asked for 20 per cent. and Jhelum and Rawalpindi have already supplied 30 per cent. or double what you are being asked to give up to May next. Your quota comes to only 1 man in 23. In Great Britain to-day one man in every 4 is serving in the army or navy, apart from those who are serving in munition factories. The small colony of New Zealand, 10,000 miles away from the motherland, out of a total male population the same as yours, has already raised 120,000 men or more than five times as many as you are asked to furnish. Yet the war concerns you much more closely than it does them.

The total male population of Gujranwala according to the last census is 518,000 and, counting those already in the army, we want to have in the army by the 31st May 1919 a total of 23,000 Gujranwala men. I have detailed figures before me for the district only up to the 30th June

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last. There were then in the army, in all, 10,764 men or 1 in 48 of the male population.

The share of each community in these figures was—

Out of 62,656 Sikhs, 3,985 or 1 in 16,
„ „ 346,374 Mussalmans, 4,567 or 1 in 76,
„ „ 99,682 Hindus, 491 or 1 in 204, and
„ „ 9,009 Christians, 485 or 1 in 18.

Well, Gentlemen, the Sikhs and the Christians can look on these results with satisfaction. But all the Sikh tribes have by no means reached the standard aimed at for the whole district. While the Mazhabis head the list with 1 in 9, and the Lobanas have already furnished 1 in 21, the Jat Sikhs have only given 1 in 68. The Sandhus and the Varaiches among the Jat Sikhs are doing well, but the Viraks have so far not done well. Last year I made a particular appeal to the Viraks to retrieve the unsatisfactory name they have earned by their turbulence and be true to their martial traditions. But although the Viraks of Gujranwala Tahsil have now begun to respond to the call, the Viraks of Khangah Dogran Tahsil have disappointed expectations and in making this last appeal to them to prove that they are true sons of the Khalsa, and eager to take up arms in the just cause which has brought 70,000 of their brother Sikhs to the King-Emperor's standard since the war began, I warn them that at this juncture if they persist in their present attitude and allow others to fight their battles they will be taunted hereafter as unworthy Sikhs, and lose their claims on the consideration of Government to whom they owe so much. Turning to the Mussalmans, I find that among the larger tribes the Rajputs have given 1 in 46 of the men of military age, but the Jats only 1 in 79. The Chathas and Sandhus, I am glad to learn, have, thanks to the good examples set by their leaders, earned the commendations of the Deputy Commissioner for their cheerful sacrifices, but, with some honourable exceptions, the Kharals, Bhattis, Lodikes and Bagsinkes are still hanging back. How long, I ask them, is this to continue? It is now no question of organization. Am I to attribute their hesitation to unworthy causes? Will they allow themselves to be looked down upon with scorn and contempt by their more patriotic brethren? These are the tribes which have profited most by the Government canal, and I would repeat to them what I have said to the Viraks of Khangah Dogran.

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The Arains have as yet but 1 in 119 men in the army, but now that a special company has been sanctioned for them in the 1-129th Baluchis, I shall hope to see them rapidly improve on their record.

Then we come to the Hindus. With 11 times the population of the Christians the Hindus have only produced approximately the same number of soldiers. What has come to the Khattris and the Brahmins, the traditional leaders of the community and the classes from which Maharaja Ranjit Singh selected his famous generals? They have contributed much less than 1 man in every 200! Have the Rajputs, too, forgotten all the glorious traditions which His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur recently sought to recall to their memory? They have 8 men in the army out of 10,000 males! The Jats have 1 in every 185, the Aroras, for whom a special company has been recently sanctioned, 1 in 421. What keeps back the Hindus from performing the duties which their sacred books enjoin? Is it cupidity or timidity? I have frequently impressed upon my audiences that the soldier's life is not all danger. This has been pointed out to us in very practical fashion by some of the speakers to-day. 'It is not true that the paths of glory lead but to the grave.' The risks and difficulties incurred by the soldier are now no greater than he would meet with in his ordinary civil life: the rewards open to him are far more numerous. Let me prove my point. The combatant recruit receives a bonus of Rs. 50 on enrolment, and under recent orders a further bonus of Rs. 15 on passing his recruit's course. By a further concession he then receives a war bonus of Rs. 4 per mensem whether in India or at the front with effect from 1st June in addition to his starting pay of Rs. 11 per mensem. That is, he now gets Rs. 15 per mensem, and when on active service overseas earns an extra Rs. 7 per mensem: he gets good food free: after a period he is given leave home, many soldiers having already in this war enjoyed this privilege two or three times. He is comfortably housed: when he falls sick he receives good medical attendance in a well-equipped hospital. Apart from the pension which he can earn, he may also by specially good service obtain a grant of canal-irrigated land from the allotment of squares which has been placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. The timid may reply that is all very well, but what about his chances of being killed? Well, I have figures here that will answer

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that question too. Since the war broke out up to the end of May—a period of 46 months—205 Gujranwala soldiers in all have been killed or died from disease in the field—an average of 4·5 per mensem or about 1 each week. In the same period 11,700 of the male population of fighting age died of plague in their homes and 40,900 of fever. That is, some 20 men of combatant age died each week in the district of plague and 100 men of fever as against a single soldier in the field. So much for the risk to life in the army. What of the honours and rewards? The men of Gujranwala have since the outbreak of war won 43 distinctions for gallantry, *viz.*, 1 Order of British India, 1st class; 5 Orders of British India, 2nd class; 2 Indian Orders of Merit, 1st class; 10 Indian Orders of Merit, 2nd class; 18 I.D.S.M's; 1 M.S. Medal; 5 Crosses and Medals of the Russian Order of St. George; and 1 Serbian Medal. More than half these honours—23—have fallen to Jat Sikhs, and that is why I want to see more of them in the army, 9 to Mazhabis, 6 to Lobanas, 1 each to a Kamboh and a Brahman and 3 to Punjabi Musalmans who have only recently been fully recruited. Khangah Dogran Tahsil claims 18 of these distinctions, Gujranwala 14, Sharakpur 7, Wazirabad 3 and Hafizabad 1. The Mazhabi village of Dhaban has gained no less than 5 honours, including the 1st and 2nd class O.B.I., and the Indian O.M., 2nd class,—all won by Subedar-Major Natha Singh, for gallantry in the field—and the Virak village of Jhabhar has gained 4 honours. I have, I regret, no time to tell you how all these honours were gained. You will find some account of them in the latest number of your *War Gazette*. If further stimulus is needed for the hesitating I would remind them that under the rules lately published a soldier may now rise from the ranks and gain by distinguished services the King's Commission in the army.

With all these incentives before their eyes I trust that the people of Gujranwala will not fail to provide of their own free will the quota which we have assigned to the district. To do so, I know, will require a great and sustained effort from all classes. But what you have done in the past year inspires full confidence for the future. Government does not desire you to use methods which savour of coercion or intimidation. These would defeat their own end by provoking irritation and discontent. But you should make it clear that it is the duty of good subjects to fight for their

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King in a just cause, the duty of good citizens to defend their country and homes against the danger of invasion and aggression. You can point out to the apathetic or unwilling that the risks of a soldier's career are not great, that the rewards are considerable, and that those who do their part in bringing this great struggle to a triumphant close can ever after hold their heads high, confident that they have brought honour to themselves, their families, their tribes and their race or religion.

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24.—Speech delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbar held at Sialkot on
5th August 1918.

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It is nearly four years since I held a Darbar in this district shortly after the outbreak of war. I then appealed to you and to the province generally for such genuine and whole-hearted support as would enable it to pass through the crisis without any stain on its splendid record of staunch and unswerving loyalty. The Punjab has as a whole nobly responded to that appeal. Attempts to create internal disorder have been promptly repressed with the active co-operation of the people, and most of our districts have made notable and generous sacrifices towards the successful prosecution of the war and the defence of the Empire. Your district has so far played a respectable but not a conspicuous part, and my objects in coming here to-day are to present some of the rewards and *sanads* which residents of Sialkot have earned by their good services; to review briefly the efforts you have already made; and above all to stimulate you to redouble those efforts in this, the last, stage of the war. It has been suggested that before the war Sialkot was not distinguished as a recruiting district. But here as elsewhere the Jat and Mazhabi Sikhs, the Muhammadan Rajputs and the Hindu Dogras had maintained the martial traditions of their respective races and at the end of 1914 Sialkot had 2,700 combatants with the colours, of whom over 2,000 were Sikhs, 440 were Mussalman, over 200 Dogras and the balance—less than 20—was composed of Hindus. Your neighbours, Gujranwala and Lahore, had but 1,600 and 1,500 men respectively in the fighting ranks: and I may compare the subsequent efforts of these two districts with yours. Sialkot has a male population of 542,000 against Gujranwala's 518,000. By the end of 1917 Lahore had raised the number of its men in the fighting line and transport to 6,100, Gujranwala to 5,400, while Sialkot still easily led the way with nearly 7,400 men. In the first 6 months of the present year Lahore had raised only 1,880 men, Sialkot 2,692, whereas Gujranwala from a smaller population had recruited over 5,000. In July the disparity was even greater, Gujran-

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wala had recruited over 1,000 men, Sialkot less than 500. On the 1st August Gujranwala had nearly 12,000 men in the army, Sialkot only 11,442. Frankly, Gentlemen, this is not as it should be. We pledged ourselves last May to raise 200,000 men in the Punjab by the 1st June 1919, and that pledge the honour of the Punjab requires us to redeem. Every district must take up its share of the burden and Sialkot has not yet shouldered its share. We have fixed the quota of the district, inclusive of those already in the army, at 20,750 men or one man in every 26 which is 3,000 less than we are asking from Gujranwala and 10,000 less than we are asking from Amritsar, both of which have a smaller population to draw upon. In the twelve months ending the 31st May 1919 we want 8,800 recruits from this district—say 750 per mensem on the average. In June and July you recruited little more than half the required quota. I think you all understand why we want these men. It is unnecessary, I conceive, for me to repeat what I said at Gujranwala as to the foolish and idle rumours which fly through the bazar. If you have placed credence in wild stories of the triumph of our enemies, and of the early invasion of India, reflection and recent events have, I hope, convinced you of their folly. The defeat of the Austrians in Italy, the growing resistance to the German tyranny in Russia, the steady advance of the British and Indian forces in Mesopotamia and Palestine, the recent triumph of the Allies in France, prove that the pendulum has begun to swing in favour of the Allies. * * * Let us see the numbers each of your great communities had furnished to the army by the end of June. I take the figures for the combatant ranks and the transport :—

The Sikhs as usual hold first place

Out of 47,038 males the Sikhs had given 3,528 or 1 in 13.

Out of 332,197 males the Mussalmāns had given 4,452 or 1 in 75.

Out of 134,585 the Hindus had given 1,661 or 1 in 81 (of whom over half were Dogras).

Out of 27,306 the Christians had given 511 or 1 in 53.

Of the Sikhs the Lobanas have done best, of the Muhammadans the Rajputs.

Sialkot Darbar

The Jat Sikhs, the Awans and Muhammadan Jats who have shown such fine spirit in other districts are still hanging back here, and the Hindu tribes and castes—excepting the gallant Dogras who are always in the front rank—have hardly moved at all. I cannot congratulate you on these results. They are not worthy of a district which contains such a large and sturdy peasantry, which has received such special favours from Government in the form of 7,000 squares in the colonies and in a 30 years term of a lenient settlement and which shows such splendid, but unfortunately rare, examples of patriotism as that fine old veteran Subedar-Major Hashim Khan who has produced over 1,000 recruits from his tribe the Salehria Rajputs and whom Government has gladly honoured by the grant of a *jagir*. Among the Sikhs, S. Harnam Singh of Manawala has set a fine example of individual effort. I would also cite the example of that heroic mother, Mussammatt Hako of the village Rupo Chak, who enlisted two sons in the army and, when one was wounded, made good the deficit by enrolling her third remaining son. I have been glad to show Government's appreciation of her spirit by granting her a square of land to-day. Sialkot has the reputation of being one of the most litigious districts in the province. Every man has of course the right to protect his personal interests, but do not let your own petty disputes blind you to the greater issues—the principles of Right and Justice for which the Empire is contending and in which you are asked to help. Gujranwala has given you a striking proof of what can be done by sinking petty differences, by combination and co-operation, and I am glad to learn that you are going to follow its example by founding a similar War League. I trust it will be equally successful in yielding practical results. It may be that many of you hold back in the ignorant belief that to become a soldier is tantamount to courting self-destruction. I pointed out the day before yesterday at Gujranwala that, paradoxical as it may seem, the life of a soldier on service is in reality more secure than that of the man who shirks his duty and stays at home. For the latter is exposed to the epidemics that sweep through the countryside, while the soldier in cantonments or on service is carefully protected from them. In the 46 months that elapsed between the outbreak of war and the end of May, only 388 Sialkot men were killed in action or died in the field from wounds and disease. That is to say, 8·5 on an average died each month—or less than 2 per week.

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In the same period from the same class of men—men of fighting age—on an average there died each week in their homes in Sialkot 91 men of plague and 296 men of fever.

But brave men are not deterred by the risk of death and I will not throw doubt on the spirit of the Sikhs, Rajputs and Jats of Sialkot by dwelling longer on this argument. It is, however, one which is commonly used to deter the hardy but ignorant and home-loving people of the Multan Division from taking to military service, and I may take this opportunity of saying that while the Multan Division, excluding Lyallpur, has some 10,000 men in the army the total number of death casualties in the war up to the end of May was less than 100—

Montgomery	..	..	..	21
Multan	..	..	..	10
Jhang	..	..	..	7
Muzaffargarh	..	..	..	5
Dera Ghazi Khan	..	..	..	5

If these trifling losses frighten people off from the army, well perhaps the army is better without them. But can they ever again hold their heads up and claim to be true Punjabis? If you want to know more of the risks and the advantages of a soldier life ask the soldier himself, ask any of the distinguished Sardars who are here to-day, who have been through many a campaign in India, China and Egypt and who have eaten the salt of the *Sa'kar* for years. Many of you have seen relatives and friends return to your midst having won their way to officer's rank. There can scarcely be a family with a representative in the army which has not benefited by the remittances that he has sent home. I desire specially to bring to your notice the great concessions recently announced. First, as to King's Commissions. It will now be possible for a soldier by distinguished conduct to rise to the high honour of holding such Commission from His Majesty the King-Emperor; while a career is held out to young men of high family and martial traditions, which compares in its opportunities with any profession in the world. Again, the Secretary of State has just sanctioned additions to the emoluments of the native officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Indian army. Every recruit on completing his course or on proceeding overseas, whichever happens first, will receive a bonus of

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Rs. 15 over and above the enlistment bounty of Rs. 50. A further bonus will be given to every combatant in the army after the completion of each 6 months of service, equivalent to Rs. 4 per mensem for non-commissioned officers, sowars and sepoy, Rs. 5 per mensem for resaidars and jamadars, and Rs. 10 per mensem for native officers of higher rank. For such *quasi*-combatants as muleteers and the army bearer corps personnel the bonus will be Rs. 2 per mensem; while officers of these classes will get the same bonus as the corresponding ranks of the fighting classes. The starting pay of the sepoy at home is therefore now Rs. 15; if serving overseas it is Rs. 22, that is, I believe, more than the pay of any European soldier except the British; it is nearly double the pay of our gallant French brothers in arms. Again, the zamindars of Sialkot more than any other district have reason to realize the value of colony squares—especially in a year of drought like the present. And over 7,000 such squares have been put at the disposal of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for distribution to those who have specially distinguished themselves in this war. I believe the allotment has already begun but most of the land will be held up till the war is over: and as the end of war is now coming into view your '*jawans*' must make haste if they want to qualify themselves for a share.

These, Gentlemen, are some of the reasons, all genuine and forcible reasons, why Government appeals to you and, through you, to the young men of military age to lose no time in flocking to the colours and completing the 8,000 men still required from Sialkot. The full quota for the district is 20,750 or about one man in 26. The distant Colony of New Zealand, with a male population less than yours, has raised 125,000 men, or nearly one man in 4, the United Kingdom has given to the Army and Navy alone two men in seven. Duty, honour, advantage in this world—merit in the next—all call to you and I am sure they will not call in vain. You cannot all, of course, seek to enter the regular army and go to the front; but special facilities have been given now to the educated classes to join the Indian Defence Force for service within India and, ordinarily, close to their own homes. It was the unanimous opinion of the Lahore War Meeting of the 4th May last that we should endeavour to raise 2,000 volunteers in the Province for the Defence Force. The quota which this district should supply is at the least 100 men, and if you provide sufficient numbers, I am sure the local

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military authorities will render all reasonable assistance to train the volunteers to take their part in the defence of India. Many of the educated classes are doubtless interested in the recent Reform Scheme, but I would remind them that all advance on the path to self-Government implies a readiness to defend their country from foreign aggression. Again, those who cannot take their place in the fighting line can still actively help the Empire in other ways. Sialkot subscribed a little over 6 lakhs to the first war loan, not a notable performance for a district with such trade and material resources, and nearly half of that sum was made up of subscriptions by local bodies. I hope this poor result will be easily surpassed in the second war loan. There are numbers of men of the commercial and trading classes who while they reap the full benefits of the British *Raj* have so far failed to bear any fair share of the burden of the present war. Their only interest in the contest has been to reap large profits for themselves. Government does not at present ask of them to risk their lives or even to sacrifice their capital. It merely asks them to lend for a few years at favourable rates to the Government, which is defending them in this great struggle, some of the capital which the protection of the British *Raj* has enabled them to amass in comfort and security. It also calls upon them not to embarrass Government when it needs all its resources in men and money, by hoarding or melting the King's coin, thus helping the King's enemies, by endeavouring to discredit the bank notes or by taking advantage of the war to corner stocks of salt, grain and cloth, unduly forcing up prices and causing distress to the poor. Let me conclude by appealing to all in words adapted from the war song of our first Punjab Poet :—

“ To arms now let the Punjab spring,
Behold the summons of the King,
Unnumbered as your golden grain,
Come from the mountain and the plain ;
And ye whose arm too weak for fight,
Your wealth shall stay the Empire's might.”

As I said in the message which appeared in the *Haq* newspaper on the fourth Anniversary of the war, the Punjab has never failed in its duty in the past : let it not be said that it failed in the final stage of this great struggle for Right. But if it is not to fail, districts like Lahore and Sialkot, which have not yet fully responded to the call, must now promptly come forward and do their duty.

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